



Old Trondhjem News
Trondhjem Community Preservation Society
PO Box 259, Lonsdale, MN 55046

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Return to Trondhjem Community Preservation Society (TCPS), PO Box 259, Lonsdale, MN 55046. TCPS is a 501 C3 corporation and all contributions are tax deductible.

8501 Garfield Ave., Lonsdale, MN 55046

www.trondhjempreservation.org

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Spring 2022

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**Historic
Trondhjem,
Telling a
Story,
Preserving a
Treasure.**

Syttende Mai Celebration

Sunday, May 15th @ 2:00 pm

Entertainment by Tjarnblom, a Scandinavian folk group.
We will have refreshments after the program and Annual Meeting.

As a special treat, we will hear from Neilia Moore on the Hardanger fiddle directly following the Annual Meeting.

Looking forward to this special gathering!



Old Fashioned Pie and Ice Cream Social

Sunday, July 17th from 12:00 to 3:00 pm

Once again we will have The Smisek Brothers Band joining us for a special and fun afternoon of fellowship and music.

8501 Garfield Ave., Lonsdale, MN 55046

www.TrondhjemPreservation.org

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FROM THE PRESIDENT



NANCY NORTON

A Note from the President

Happy Spring to you all! In many ways, this Spring holds special promise, as we continue to open up after the pandemic restrictions of the past few years, and find ways to safely be together again.

By the time you read this, we will have hosted our Rosemaling event at the Historic Church, and Trondhjem Lutheran Church will have held Christmas Eve and Easter Sunrise services here. Two weddings have been celebrated onsite in the last few months, with another scheduled for June.

May 15, 2022 will be our first Syttende Mai celebration in nearly 3 years. It promises to be a wonderful day with entertainment by Tjarnblom, and a very special mystery guest! We will hold a brief Annual Meeting and share coffee, treats and fellowship afterwards. We hope you will join us.

All of us have experienced rising prices as a result of the pandemic. While some of our expenses here at Historic Trondhjem Church are fixed, we have seen our propane and insurance costs rise dramatically. We are also in need of some security upgrades (see below) and concerned about our reserves. Thank you for your support, and please consider donating as you are able. We rely on you!

PSSSSSSSST!!



Historic Trondhjem Church recently hosted a very special guest, filming for a show in which our beautifully restored church and its Norwegian heritage will be featured. Details will be shared soon!

Watch our Facebook page and website for more information.

Where to Find Us

Mailing Address

TCPS
P.O. Box 259
Lonsdale, MN 55046

Street Address

8501 Garfield Ave
Lonsdale, MN

Email Address

HistoricTCPS@gmail.com

Rental Information or Tours

ReserveHistoricChurch@gmail.com or
Ramona Pumper at: erlis@charter.net

For other information contact

President: Nancy Halverson Norton
NancyHNorton@gmail.com

Vice President: Ramona Pumper
erlis@Charter.net

Treasurer: Debra Simon
msdebsimon@gmail.com

TCPS Board

Board of Directors

President - Nancy Halverson Norton
Vice President – Ramona Pumper
Secretary – Bonnie Pavék
Treasurer – Deb Simon
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Phil Bonham, Darin Pavék, Ann Pocker

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Museum – John Lindell
Publicity/Newsletter/Web—Ann Pocker
Editor—Ann Pocker
Events & Programs—
Finance & Membership— Ann Pocker
Account/Auditor—Randy Halverson
Legal Advisor—Nancy Halverson Norton

CONTRIBUTIONS

November 2021 – April 2022

Dennis & Donna Cleland
Karen Holz
Evonne Clay
Lorraine Lemke
The Herreid Family
Bonnie Gretz
John Fossum
Brenda Pflaum
Mark & Susan Quinnell
Norman Vinnes

Memory of Joyce Fossum Pflaum

Susan Bruley
Robert & Marlys Klemenhausen

Memory of Naomi Quinnell

Don & Bonnie Pavék
Ramona Pumper
Karen Thompson
Brett & Bonnie Quinnell

Memory of Gordon & Barbara Halverson

Ken & Cindy Halverson
Elouise Quinnell

In Honor of our Parents

David & Judy Saxerud

Christmas Memorial Gift

In Memory of Daniel & Emelie,
Mens & Edna, Arleigh & Deloris
Berg & Millie Berg
Carol Berg

Memory of Harlan Johnson

Don & Bonnie Pavék
Al & Barb Lentsch

Memory of Percy & Millie Johnson

Jean Johnson

Memory of Sandy Valek

Don & Bonnie Pavék
Al & Barb Lentsch

Cindy Blaha
Sue Cabot

Memory of Pastor Brent Christianson

Becky Christenson

Honor of the Volunteers preserving this Treasure of Norwegian Heritage

Robert & Marlys Klemenhausen

Memory of Diane Berg Dueholm

Dianne Dueholm

Memory of Randa Vogen & Millie Johnson

George & Judy Pinc

Memory of Bert Paulsen

Donna Paulsen

Memory of Deone Ward

Mark Ward

Honor of Al Lentsch 80th BD

Rod & Kim Smisek
Dale & Deb Simon

Memory of Duane & Joyce Pflaum

Sandra Lee

Memory of JK & Inga Johnson

Julie Nelson

Memory of Norm Halverson & Honor of Ella Halverson

Dave & Donna Knudtson

Memory of Mens & Edna Berg

Arleigh & Barbara Berg
Mark Berg

Memory of Millie Berg

Mark Berg
Sheldon Berg
Clare & Sindy Jensen

Memory of Robert Berg
Mary Ann Johnson

Memory of Barbara Buchite,
Sheryl Buchite & Allan Obene
Allan & Carol Buchite

Memory of Lee & Carol Fossum
& Joyce & Duane Pflaum

Merle & Mavis Fossum

Memory of Eldon (Corky) Quinnell

Ray & Susan Schwartz

Honor of Bev Johnson Hussey's
Birthday

Don & Bonnie Pavék

Memory of Grandparents Peter
& Lizzie Berg

Elaine Hernke

Memory of Al Thorpe

Don & Bonnie Pavék

*Thank you for your
contributions
that help sustain this
beautiful, historic treasure!*

TRONDHJEM COMMUNITY'S BEGINNING

(original author, Joyce Fossum Pflaum, 2004)

The Village of Trondhjem was a busy and vibrant community in the late 1860's until the early 1900's, when the area was first settled by the Irish, Czechs, and Norwegians. The Native Americans were still camping around Union Lake at that time. Jacob Camp settled by Union Lake about 1857 and his children told stories about playing with the Native American children. The first claim to be taken in the area was secured by Martin Taylor, a native of Ireland, in November, 1855, about 2 miles west and north of Trondhjem. That same spring S.J. and Chalmer Webster took claims near Union Lake.

Settlers arrived in larger numbers after 1856. Webster Township was organized May 11, 1858, and was named in honor of Mr. Ferris Webster, an early settler in Webster Township. In 1856 Mr. Ferris Webster hauled goods from Hastings by team and, with limited stock of groceries and provisions, opened a small store

I Section 35 of Webster Township. It operated for a short time and then discontinued as the country was too sparsely settled to support the enterprise. Other Websters settling in the area included Mr. and Mrs. Salmon Webster and their family.

From the Union Lake Times of the Northfield News, dated January 8, 1898: "M. C. Webster and family will leave for Ohio Tuesday evening. He has been a resident of this place for forty-two years, having come here when a small child and was here at the time of the Indian outbreak, often visiting their camp on the north side of the lake (note: This refers to Union Lake, which was then called Minnemedak), and so the last Webster leaves the place which they helped break into civilization."



The village of Trondhjem Minnesota around 1900 or earlier.

One of the first homes in Trondhjem, built in the 1870's, was that of Pete Anderson. Photos of this home indicate it was very small. But it was home to Peter, his wife, Anne, and two children, Alf and Elvira; and it was also the community gathering place as it was a post office for 15 years and a store.

According to the "History of Rice County" by Rev. Edward D. Neill, written in 1882, Nels Oleson, in 1874, put a blacksmith shop in the southwestern part of Section 29, Webster Twp., putting in a complete set of tools and being busy "Blowing the Bellows". This would be very near to, or in, the village of

Trondhjem. Other early settlers of the area arriving by 1876 were Paul and J. Danielson, Peter Johnson, Haagen Olson, Ole Rygg, Ole Sjoli, Albert and Oluf Straete, Peter and Lars Berg, Amund and Johannes Fossum, O. Anderson, Eskel Quinnell, Ole Matson, Herman Lyng, Bertinus, Guttorm & Elling Nilsen, H.

Grotte, Ole and Ingebright Skague, P. and H. Olsen, Jens Nyhus A. Guttoemsen, and Ole Hansen.

The Webster Cooperative Dairy erected a skimery in Trondhjem. Local farmers would bring their milk to the facility where the cream would be skimmed off and taken to the Webster Creamery to be made into butter. The farmers would take the skim milk back home to use in other ways.

Trondhjem had three mercantile stores where food staples were also sold, a hardware store and a feed mill, in addition to the post office and blacksmith shop.

ROSEMALING EVENT

The Historic Trondhjem Church has acquired two beautiful pieces of Rosemaling in the Trondelag style, commissioned and painted specifically for us by Louise Bath, Vesterheim Gold Medalist Rosemaler. Our Museum Committee worked on placement and signage, and we celebrated with a visit by Louise Bath on April 23rd!

The day began with a rosemaling class for 25 pre-registered guests taught by Louise Bath. Participants learned basic brush strokes, paint mixing and brush loading techniques which are the hallmark of "rose painting", and painted a wooden ornament of their own. They also became familiar with the "Trondelag" style of rosemaling, specific to the Trondheim area of Norway.

The afternoon session was free and open to the public. Louise Bath gave a slide show presentation entitled "Rosemaling Traditions in Trondelag", followed by an informal reception to view her work and the new commissioned folk art installation in our fellowship area.

This commission and the event were made possible by a grant from Partners for Sacred Places, Nordic Churches Project (<https://sacredplaces.org/our-work/projects/nordic-churches/>) and a staff member from



DETTE N' SOME (THIS N/ THAT)

Needed Security Upgrades

Local law enforcement have been called to our Historic Church twice in the past few months: once for a break-in, and once for an apparent door blowing open. We have also had a disappointing incident of “dumping” of garbage and old furniture beside our building this fall. While we have locks, a camera and a basic security system installed, we recognize it has some limits. At the very least, we must install heavier locks and deadbolts, and integrate them into the existing system.

We are assessing our options, however, for making this as secure as possible while also permitting appropriate access for events. For example: a more sophisticated system would allow us to grant temporary access codes to users, which would be limited to a specific event or timeframe. This might reduce the time our Board Members and volunteers spend making repeated trips to lock, unlock and monitor scheduled activities and events.

With the cost of new locks and possibly additional cameras, security equipment upgrades could range from \$3,000 to \$5,000, with monthly costs of \$47 to \$55 (current monthly is about \$32). This is a significant expense for us, and we will need to go into our limited reserves to make any upgrades. Please consider a donation for this compelling need at the Historic Church!

Deck the Halls!

Thank you to the Tove Johnson family who decorated our beautiful church for Christmas.



Please help us save unnecessary or duplicate mailing costs.

If you have two addresses (winter/summer, for example) please sign up for e-mail delivery of our newsletter if possible. The post office won't forward bulk mail like our newsletter, and all returns are an additional cost to us, over and above the mailing cost. Contact historictcps@gmail.com to request e-mail delivery of our newsletter. Thank you!



CEMETERY CORNER

The Trondhjem Cemetery has a history dating back to the early founders. Some of the graves are unmarked (no headstone). One such grave is the great grandfather of Kathy Johnson. Kathy shared this history with us:

Nels Syverson Solberg (b. 05-05-1835 Norway) immigrated from Oslo and arrived at the Port of New York on 07-23-1867. He settled in Blair Township, Trempealeau County, WI. In 1868 he married Sirena Andreasdatter Kaaten (b. 09-18-1844 Vaaler, Hedmark, Norway) and by 1873 they were living in Mpls, MN. In 1874 he purchased land in Section 10 in Wheatland, Webster Township, Rice County where they farmed. On 05-15-1876 Nels was one of the original signers of the constitution for Trondhjem's Norwegian Lutheran Church. He was in Northfield on 09-07-1876 when the Jesse James gang raided the First National Bank, and hid under the stairs of the Brunswick Hotel. Sometime after 1879 he sold the farm, and bought 80 acres in Section 30, south of the church, along Knowles Creek, from Anders Christenson Fossum (11-18-1957 to 09-25-1945) and built a small house. In 1905 he was diagnosed with Bright's disease. He died on 12-02-1910 and was buried in the church cemetery. By 1915 Sirena had sold the property to Daniel Oscar Berg's (09-18-1849 to 08-19-1911) son Oscar Daniel Berg (1882 to 1973). She and son Andrew were living on two acres in Section 31 (due south above Cody Lake). Sometime after 1920 she suffered a stroke. She and Andrew went to

live with her daughter Olava Low. From 10-27-1924 to her death on 12-06-1924 she was attended by Doctor M. G. Henrickson. She died from Mitral Insufficiency due to Capillary Bronchitis, and was buried with Nels. Their son Syver Nelson Solberg (b. 90-12-1870) married his second wife Marie Hovind (b. 07-17-1882 Cedar Falls, WI) on 02-26-1912. Their son Selmer Arthur Solberg (b. 05-03-1913 Mpls) was my father.

The Trondhjem Cemetery is an entity of its own. While we work closely with Trondhjem Lutheran Church and the Trondhjem Community Preservation Society, the cemetery is not funded by either of these organizations. If you would like to help support our cemetery, donations for this historic site can be sent to:

Trondhjem Cemetery Corp or Deb Simon
PO Box 123 12527 50th St W
Northfield MN 55057 New Prague MN 56071

Please write checks to “Trondhjem Cemetery”

Deb (Johnson) Simon
Treasurer
Trondhjem Cemetery Corp

Want to research a burial? Go to Dalbydata.com, and click on “Cemetery” for name search to locate the

RECIPE FROM 1978 TRONDHJEM COOKBOOK

Swedish Meatballs by Mabel Fossum

1 lbs ground beef and pork
1 onion
2 eggs
1 1/2 cup milk
1/2 tsp all spice
1/4 tsp cloves
1/4 tsp sage
2 tsp salt
1/2 tsp pepper
2 cups Wheaties or bread crumbs

Mix together and form into small balls, dipping in cold water to make handling easier. Brown in skillet. Remove to casserole dish. Make gravy from drippings and pour over meatballs. Cover and simmer or bake slowly.

Make approximately 40 meatballs.