

2

Our Next
Digitizing
Project

3

October 22
Biennial
Meeting

5

A Pastor's
Note for
Emigrants

6

Immigrant
Lighthouse
Keepers

10

A Centennial
High-Water
Mark

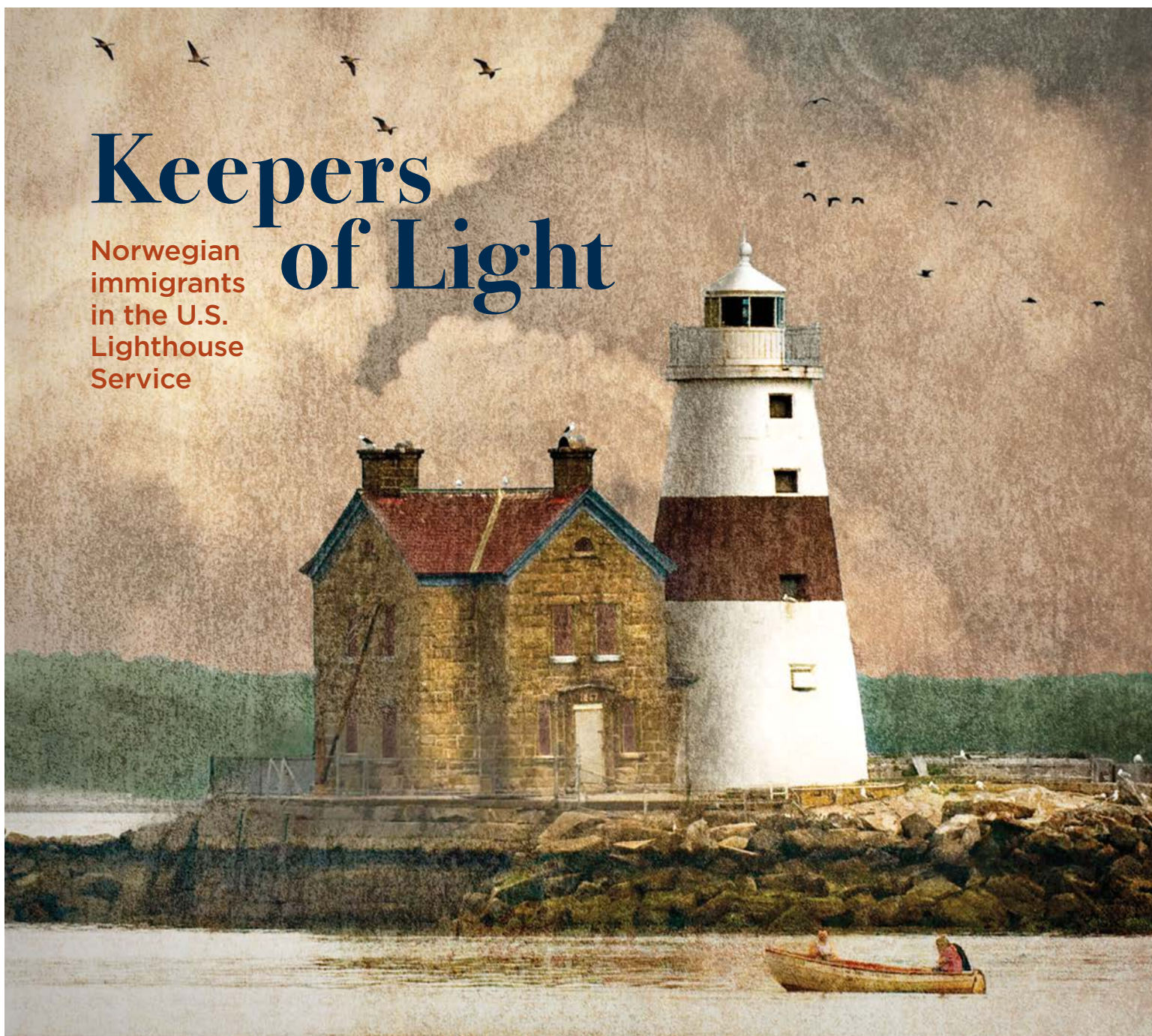


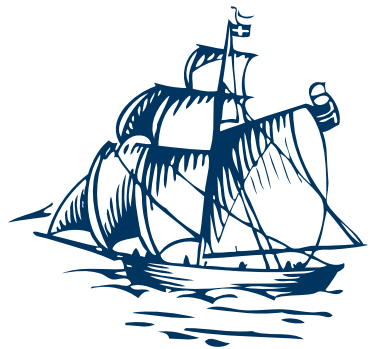
Currents

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NORWEGIAN-AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION | SUMMER 2022 VOLUME 184

Keepers of Light

Norwegian
immigrants
in the U.S.
Lighthouse
Service





A CELEBRATION DIGITIZED

on the cover

Execution
Rocks
Lighthouse,
built in 1849,
stands near
Sands Point on
the west end of
Long Island
Sound, in New
York. Its name
is attributed
to lore about
executions
carried out
there by the
British in
Colonial times.

In January, NAHA finished digitizing the Ole Rølvaag papers. Thanks to new grant funding, we have shifted gears and are now digitizing the items in our archives that tell the story of the Norse-American Centennial. Like the Rølvaag project, this one is financed by a generous grant from the State of Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, administered through the Minnesota Historical Society.

The Norse-American Centennial of 1925 marked the 100th anniversary of organized immigration to North America from Norway. The marquee event brought national attention to Minnesota's Norwegian immigrant community. For those who attended, it was a cultural celebration on a grand scale.

But behind the scenes, the centennial challenged the Norwegian-American community. Strong nativist impulses in the United States at that time caused Norwegian Americans to re-examine their heritage and their role as Americans. Just a year before he addressed the centennial crowd, U.S. President Calvin Coolidge had signed the Immigration Act of 1924. It tightened already-tight restrictions on the number of foreign-born people who could enter the United States. Coolidge had argued for lower limits, warning that "America must be kept American."

Centennial celebrations culminated in a four-day event at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds in June 1925. It was billed as "The World's Largest Gathering" that year. There were speeches from Norwegian, Canadian, Icelandic, and American dignitaries; religious services; musical performances; sporting events; and displays of handcrafts, fine arts, and natural resources. The high point was a lavish "Pageant of the Northmen," a melodramatic account of a thousand years of Norwegian history that featured stories of heroic settlement, noteworthy individuals, and triumphs in the New World.

Many smaller events were held elsewhere, including Brooklyn, Chicago, and communities in Canada. Given the social and political climate, the events tended to showcase the contributions that Norwegian Americans had made in their adopted countries and emphasize how well they fit in. The celebrations were a tricky balancing of old culture and new. They constituted a complex process of building a Norwegian-American identity.

Behind the centennial events, initiating and organizing them, were the *bygdslag*. These clubs for immigrants and their descendants represented the regions of Norway that members had come from. Materials in the Norse-American Centennial collection describe in detail the management of the celebration. Letters and essays reveal the loyalty of Norwegian Americans to their cultural heritage, and their internal struggles to understand and represent their cultural identity.

We expect to complete the centennial digitization project in early 2023. I encourage you to stay tuned for updates and keep an eye on our website for newly digitized materials as they become available.

All the Best,

Kristina Warner, Archivist



in brief

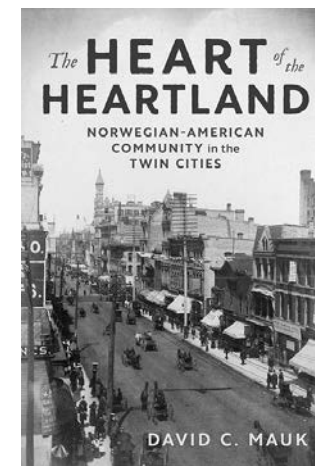
NEW HISTORY OF NORWEGIANS IN THE TWIN CITIES OUT THIS FALL

Historian David Mauk devoted decades to his research on Norwegian Americans in Minneapolis and St. Paul. This fall, NAHA members and other readers can enjoy the results. Mauk's book *The Heart of the Heartland, Norwegian-American Community in the Twin Cities* will be published jointly by NAHA and the Minnesota Historical Society Press. NAHA members will receive a hardcover copy of the book as a benefit of membership.

Mauk, now an emeritus professor at the University of Oslo's Department of Literature, Area Studies, and European Languages, has shared elements of his Minnesota research in published articles during his long career as a scholar. Among other things, those works have discussed Pan-Scandinavian cooperation in the Twin Cities, and shifts in the meaning of the cities' Syttende Mai celebrations over several generations.

In his book, Mauk brings all of his work together and brings it up to date. His synthesis of his research examines how a sense of Norwegian-American identity formed and evolved in the local community from 1849 through 2020.

"This book is long awaited and much needed," says NAHA Editor Anna Peterson. "It promises to make a significant contribution to our understanding of the entwined histories of Norwegian Americans and Minneapolis-St. Paul for years to come."



Save the Date: Biennial Event October 22

Keep the fourth Saturday in October open on your calendar for the NAHA biennial member event, a day to explore history, enjoy the company of other NAHA members, and advance the work of the association. The keynote speaker will be David Mauk, author of *Heart of the Heartland*. (Read more about Mauk and his book at left.)

This year's event focuses on the history of Norwegians in the Twin Cities. While many of Norway's emigrants were homesteaders and farmers in North America, there is a rich history of Norwegians settling in urban centers. In the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, it dates to 1849.

The day-long October 22 event will include lunch and social time, association news from the NAHA staff and board of directors, and the election of new board members. For more information, watch our website (naha.stolaf.edu) and social media, where program and registration details will be available by October 1.

LOIS RAND, 1925-2022

As summer began, news arrived of the passing of Lois Rand. Her talents, spirit, and friendship to our association will be missed. Rand was a Lifetime member of NAHA and was the association's first woman president, serving from 2002 to 2005. She died on May 24 at 96 years old. A funeral service was held June 11. More about her work for NAHA and for the Norwegian-American community will follow in the autumn issue of *Currents*. In the meantime, her obituary can be found by searching for her name at northfieldfuneral.com.



IMAGE (COVER): NICHOL STUDIOS / ALAMY STOCK PHOTO

MEET NEW NAHA INTERNS AND SCHOLARS

Through internships, NAHA creates opportunities for students to encounter history and gain hands-on experience in the management of archives and nonprofit organizations. This summer, NAHA welcomes four new interns.



Erik Moe



Ryan Kiser



Helen White



Helen Murphy

ERIK MOE ('23) AND RYAN KISER ('25) hold the NAHA Nordic Studies in the Digital Humanities internships. The positions are funded by the Norwegian department at St. Olaf College and are open to students who major in Norwegian or Nordic Studies or pursue a concentration in Nordic Studies. Moe and Kiser will produce a resource guide for the Norse-American Centennial collection, which NAHA is in the process of digitizing.

HELEN WHITE ('23) is the NAHA Archives Outreach intern. The position is funded through the NAHA Sigvald Quale Norwegian Society Fund and is open to any St. Olaf student. White will promote awareness of the archives, including through social media posts.

White will also have a second role this summer and in the coming school year, as a Rand Scholar. The scholarship is named for former college president Sidney Rand. It is awarded competitively to a St. Olaf student to support independent study of Norwegian life and culture. White will use materials from the NAHA archives to examine how the Norwegian language changed over time, both in Norway and America.

HELEN MURPHY will work for NAHA virtually as a practicum student from the Information School at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. She will work on cataloging and transcribing oral interviews.

SAY HELLO TO NINA OLDHAM

If you call NAHA and hear a new voice answer the phone, it's probably Nina Oldham, who recently joined NAHA as our office administrative assistant. Oldham comes with more than 30 years' experience as a legal administrative assistant. She recently moved with her family to Minnesota from the Washington, DC, area. Her work will include much of our member and donor coordination and communication. Please join us in welcoming her.

UTFLYTTINGSATTEST: AN ID AND CHARACTER REFERENCE IN ONE

BY DALE HOVLAND

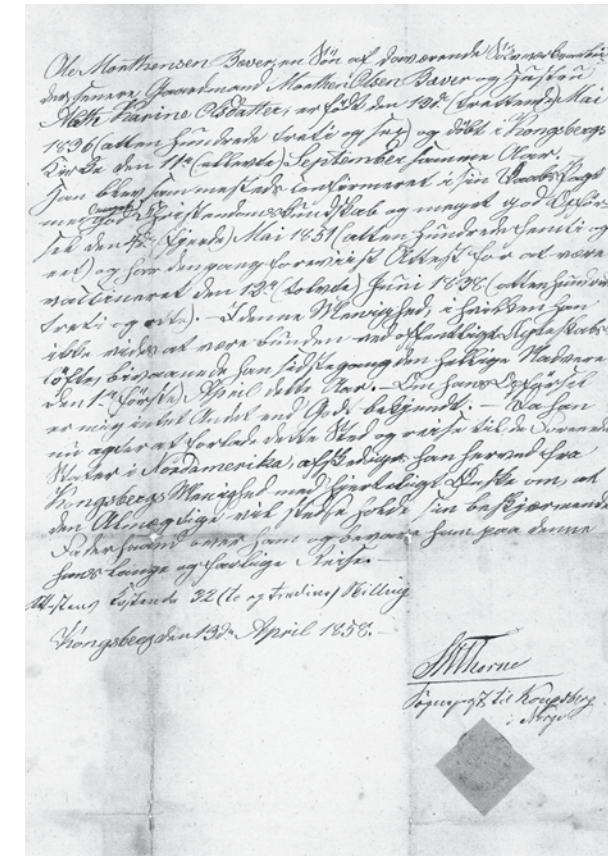
Among the prized possessions of our Norwegian ancestors who emigrated would be a document signed by their local pastor. The *utflyttingsattest*, literally a testimonial at the time of out-moving, was a certificate they could use to prove their identity in a new place and a testimonial regarding their character.

Their move might be to a different country or just as far as a neighboring parish in Norway. Newcomers presented their attest to the pastor in their new community. The certificate showed a record of their life as church and community members back home, giving the dates and other facts of their baptism, confirmation, vaccination, and more.

NAHA member Michael Oiseth has the original handwritten *utflyttingsattest* that his father's mother's father brought when he immigrated to America more than a century-and-a-half ago. It tells that:

Ole Morthensen Bæver, son of farmer Morthen Olsen Bæver and wife Aleth Karine Olsdattter, was born May 13, 1836, and baptized in the Kongsberg church September 11 the same year. He was confirmed on May 4, 1851, with grades for knowledge and diligence from "good" to "very good." Ole was vaccinated against smallpox on June 12, 1838. His intended destination is North America, the attest says.

The cost of the attest was 32 skillings. The document is dated April 13, 1858, and signed by



S. W. (Søren Wilhelm) Thorne, who was the parish minister for Kongsberg in Norway. (Thorne was also a member of the Storting, Norway's parliament, for a number of years.)

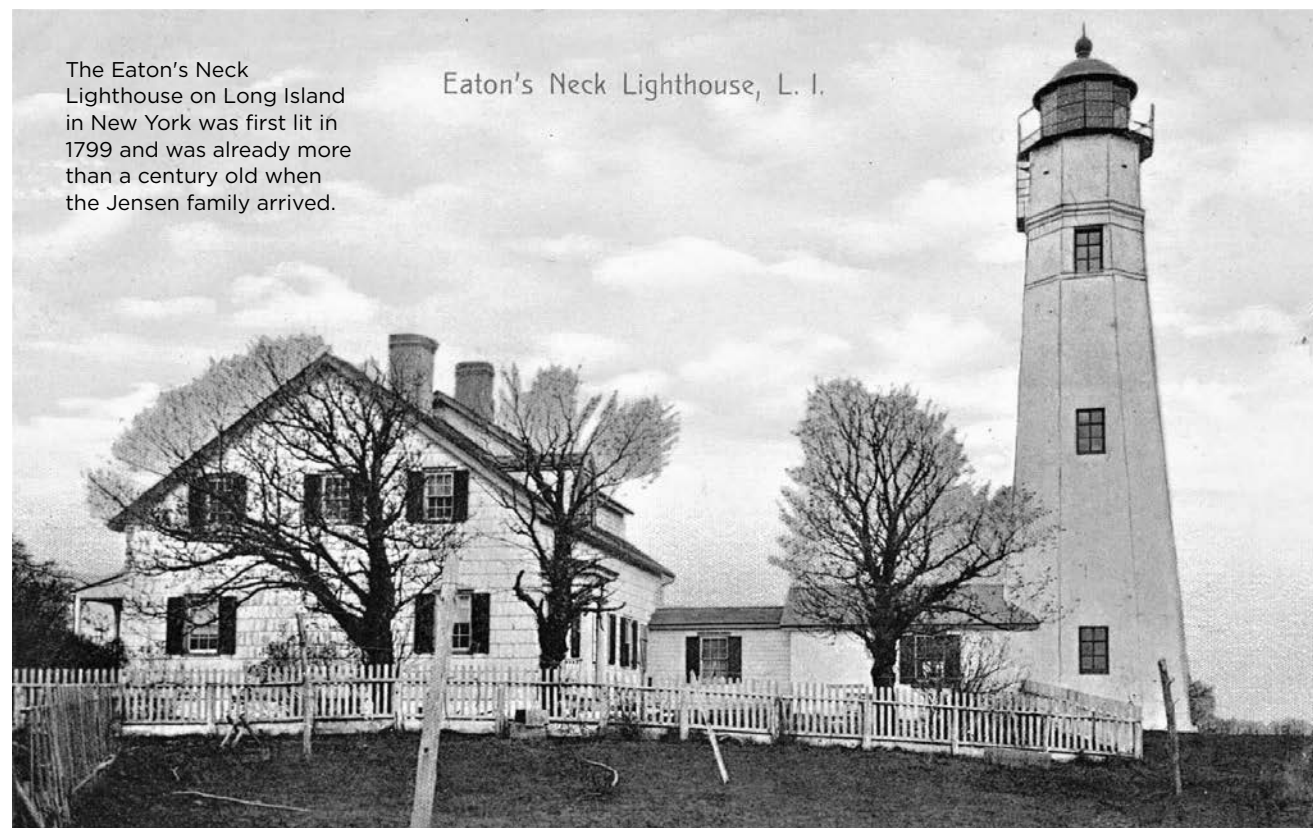
From the information on Ole's attest, it is possible to locate records for his birth, baptism, and confirmation in the Kongsberg church books in the digitized National Archives of Norway (digitalarkivet.no). Those records give more clues about the family's history, including a farm name: Hugsted.

This 1858 attest for Ole Bæver was written freehand by his pastor, Søren Thorne, in Kongsberg.

An example of a later *utflyttingsattest* can be seen in Norway's Digital Museum (digitaltmuseum.no) by using the search field on the home page and searching with the name "Gjølgei." This attest, for Jørgen Sivertsen Gjølgei, is from March 1906. Unlike Bæver's handwritten letter, Gjølgei's attest is a preprinted, fill-in-the-blanks form, though it includes essentially the same information. In his case, Gjølgei states that he wishes to move to America in the near future. The attest is signed by parish minister P. F. Aarvold. The cost of the 1906 attest, as fixed by law, was 1 krone.

When an *utflyttingsattest* was generated, the pastor made an entry in the *Utflyttede*, or out-migrated, section of the church book. Names grouped on a page in this section of the book can help identify family members or community members who traveled together. This is the case for Ole Bæver and Karl Jensen, who emigrated together from Kongsberg.

Many church books from 1820 to 1876 had pre-printed columns, with space to fill in the date, name, age, and destination of out-movers. But in the Kongsberg church book that includes Ole Bæver's *utflyttede* entry in 1858, the columns are labeled by hand, and they include one that is relatively uncommon, *den udflyttedes skudsmaal*, the out-migrating person's character rating. The minister seemed to want to help his migrating parishioners get off to a good start in their new communities. In Ole's record and in all 64 of the listings on that page, the entry in this column is *ulastelig vandel*, irreproachable conduct.



KEEPERS OF LIGHT

TWO TALES OF NORWEGIAN IMMIGRANTS WHO CROSSED THE SEA AND THEN WORKED TO MAKE THE WATERS SAFE.

BY JEFF SAUVE

1894 IN THE SOUTH OF

Norway: A lean 10-year-old girl named Ingeborg Myhre patiently sits for a wandering fortune-teller, who examines her callused hands. While Myhre chatters about life on her family's farm, Skogbråtsmyra, the seer traces the faint lines in her palm. The child has sinewy arms, the product of routinely rowing by herself, a mile or so, to the village of Dybvåg in Agder County, where she attends school.

Finally, the fortune-teller gives a

brief prophecy: "You will go across the ocean and live next to a tall tower."

In time, the prediction is fulfilled. The towering structure is a lighthouse in New York. In 1908, Myhre marries a young Norwegian immigrant lighthouse keeper, Arthur Jensen.

Her story is passed down through a retelling by her daughter, Vivian Jensen Chapin (1923–2014), and preserved by the Norwegian Immigration Association, a nonprofit that gathers and shares the history of Norwegian immigrants in the New York area. The family's story is rich material for the emerging field of maritime scholarship regarding Norwegian immigrants. Among them were men and women who worked as

keepers for the U.S. Lighthouse Service, both on the coasts and on the Great Lakes.

A Mariner Goes Ashore

Before the advent of electrification, automation, and satellite-based GPS, hundreds of lighthouse stations required onsite crews to tend them. The earliest beacons in the United States burned wood, coal, or even candles, writes historian Paul Zielinski, of the Saint Augustine

Lighthouse and Maritime Museum in Florida. In the first half of the 19th century, the lights burned whale oil, and later, kerosene. Electrification came slowly, beginning around the turn of the 20th century.

In 1904, 10 years after the fortune-teller's prediction, Ingeborg Myhre received a first-class steamship ticket to America from her uncle. As a 20-year-old woman, she arrived in New York and found employment in Brooklyn as a ladies' maid. A few years later, in the summer of 1908, she met a fellow Norwegian immigrant at a Sons of Norway dance. Arthur Johan Oscar Jensen was 33, nearly a decade older than she was, and he worked as an assistant keeper at the Execution Rocks Lighthouse off New Rochelle on the Long Island Sound.

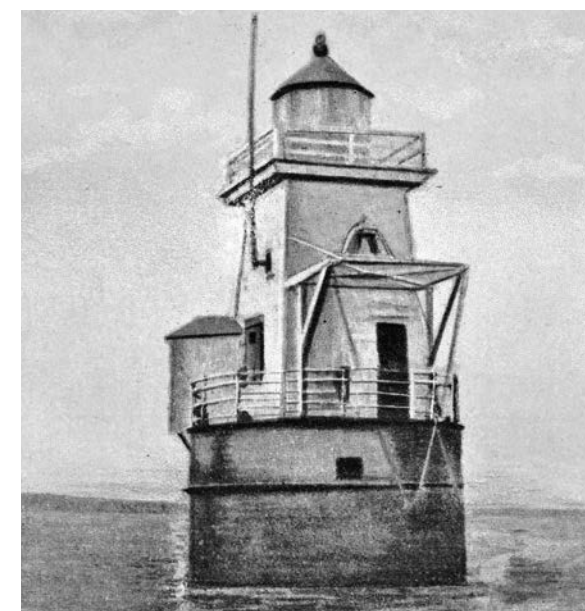
Jensen, born in 1875 in Tangen, in the Hedmark region of Norway, took to the high seas on his grandfather's whaling ship before he could even shave. He sailed as far as the Falkland Islands, and he never looked back to the land for a career. After completing his studies with the Navigation School in Drammen, Norway, he immigrated to America in 1893 and joined the U.S. Navy a few years later.

During the Spanish-American War in 1898, he was a quartermaster on the USS *Richmond*. After the war, Jensen was assigned to the Brooklyn Navy Yard, and later joined the U.S. Lighthouse Service, in 1904.

He was moved to a new post during his summer courtship with Myhre in 1908. The keeper at the Cold Spring Harbor station, off the north shore of Long Island, died in a drowning accident that



(Above) Arthur and Ingeborg Jensen in the early 1910s. (Below) The Cold Spring Harbor lighthouse on Long Island, where the Jensens started their married life together.



August. The man apparently slipped climbing a ladder and fell into the bay. Oddly, he did not know how to swim. Jensen was assigned to be his temporary replacement for eight months, and that October, he and Myhre were married.

As summer waned and autumn unfolded, the quiet solitude of the Cold Spring Harbor station was sometimes interrupted by surprise visitors. President Theodore Roosevelt, an avid outdoorsman, immensely enjoyed rowing with his children to the lighthouse from their nearby summer home, Sagamore Hill.

Life on Eaton's Neck

Life as a lighthouse keeper could be spartan. A 1927 handbook of *Instructions to Employees of the United States Lighthouse Service*, spells out the government's policy: It will not provide any furnishings or utensils for the family dwellings of lighthouse keepers, but for resident keepers who live alone and have no separate family dwellings, the Lighthouse Service will provide the most common furniture and utensils—"and all articles so provided will be of plain and serviceable quality."

By 1916, Jensen had been placed as the head keeper at the historic Eaton's Neck Lighthouse on Long Island. The lighthouse was already more than a century old. First lit in 1799, it stood at the northern end of the Eaton's Neck peninsula. It was an enchanting spot and it would serve as the Jensens' home until Arthur retired in 1944. But in the lighthouse keeper's cottage, where Ingeborg and Arthur raised three children, there was neither electricity nor running water.

Their cozy quarters consisted of a living room, kitchen, coal

“EATON’S NECK LIGHTHOUSE WAS A UNIQUE PLACE TO REMEMBER AS MY HOME—

the good neighbors, the vast opportunities for outdoor activities, and the sublime realization that there was no place on earth quite its equal.”

—VIVIAN JENSEN CHAPIN

stove, sink with hand pump, and three bedrooms upstairs. With no indoor plumbing, they visited a privy located in back of the house—“a long walk on a cold winter’s night,” recounted Vivian Jensen Chapin, who was the youngest child in the family. To her, “the best part of the house was the kitchen, especially in the winter with the coal stove warm, and the oven ready to produce wondrous results.”

Self-sufficiency was a must, given the remoteness of their situation. On frigid nights, the Jensens’ baby chicks were put under the stove to keep them warm. The family ate fresh fish regularly, speared by Arthur Jensen from the shoreline. A large garden and mature poultry filled the larder.

The most important and constant task, of course, was attending to the fixed white light in the 73-foot tower. During stormy nights, family members took turns playing checkers all night with Arthur, to make sure the beacon remained lit and the flywheel foghorn was sounded. During his career, Jensen rescued

a number of people. In 1923, it was several occupants of a rowboat that capsized near his station at Eaton’s Neck.

Chapin writes that a few years after he retired, her father died peacefully, in 1947, “in their home on Mariner’s Lane in Northport, overlooking the Long Island Sound, where he could see the steady beam of Eaton’s Neck Light.” His wife, Ingeborg Myhre Jensen, died in 1975, at age 90.

A Family Serves on Lake Michigan

Like Arthur Jensen, Henry M. Stanley, took to the sea at an early age. Born in about 1823, possibly at Brønnøy in Nordland County, Norway, he immigrated to the U.S. in 1844. Five years later, he boarded a ship bound for California’s gold fields. Stanley eventually returned to New York—without a fortune—and there he met his future wife, Katherine Hesh.

She was born in Heidelberg, Germany, in 1837, and was 17 when she married Stanley. Together they had a son, John (born in 1858) and a daughter, Elizabeth (1860).

The couple moved west after their marriage. Henry Stanley worked the inland seas of the Great Lakes as a part-owner of several ships. Then in 1868, he accepted a post as the keeper at the new Eagle Bluff Lighthouse, near Ephraim, in Door County, Wisconsin.

On October 15, Stanley lit the wick on the new beacon, which was “tucked inside a metal vessel containing melted lard,” according to an account published in 2018 in the *Green Bay Gazette*. (Lard was used as a substitute for whale oil when supplies of

that fuel began to run low in the mid-19th century, Zielinski writes, but lard was soon replaced by kerosene.)

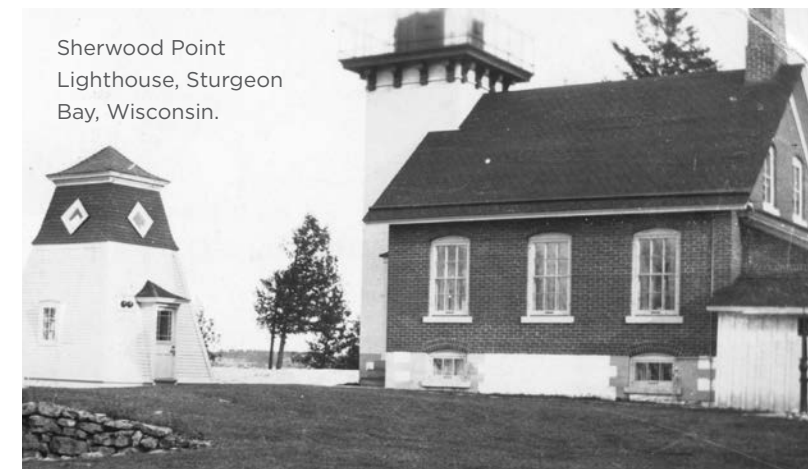
Settling in at Eagle Bluff, Stanley sold his business interests, and for the remainder of his years he safeguarded the waterways of Lake Michigan. But his life there with Katherine and their children was not a lakeshore idyll.

John, their son, died in the early 1870s. And beginning in 1880, Katherine suffered a debilitating illness for decades.

That same year, in July 1880, the couple’s surviving daughter, Elizabeth, married an older widower who had two young children. But in November 1881, Elizabeth also fell ill, suddenly and gravely. Receiving a telegram with the news, Katherine Stanley made a rushed three-day journey to Fort Howard, Wisconsin, and held her daughter’s hand for just three hours before Elizabeth passed away. It was nearly half a year before Katherine Stanley recovered from her shock and grief and returned to the Eagle Bluff Lighthouse, at the end of May 1882.

Soon she and her husband moved. In the autumn of 1883, Henry Stanley was again assigned to a newly built lighthouse, Sherwood Point, near Idlewild in Door County. Set atop a 30-foot limestone bluff at the edge of the woods, the picturesque setting featured a cozy red brick keeper’s cottage. But the beauty and hominess of the place did nothing to improve Katherine’s health. When she underwent an operation in 1884 in Green Bay, her niece, Minnie Hesh, came from New York to help nurse her through her recovery.

Hesh took an interest in the



lighthouse. In *Keepers of the Lights*, a history of lighthouse keepers in Door County from the 1830s through the 1930s, author Steven Karges writes that Hesh helped her uncle with routine duties, including writing entries in the station’s logbook, taking regular watches, and occasionally operating the fixed-white beacon by hand when its mechanics failed. She stayed intermittently at Sherwood Point for the next five years, eventually meeting and marrying William Cochems, the son of a prominent area businessman, and starting a family with him.

The young couple faced financial trouble after a nationwide economic panic in 1893, Karges writes. William Cochems declared bankruptcy the next year. But that autumn, probably recognizing the family’s need for help, Henry Stanley hired William Cochems as his assistant at Sherwood Point, with an annual salary of \$400.

As it turned out, Henry Stanley’s mentoring of Minnie and William at the lighthouse became his legacy there. He was in declining health, and on the morning of October 13, 1895, Stanley died, reportedly of “paralysis.” His obituary said he was

likely the oldest lighthouse keeper on Lake Michigan at the time. Soon afterward, his son-in-law, Cochems, was promoted to become head keeper, and Stanley’s widow, Katherine Stanley, was appointed as assistant keeper. Her selection for the job was noteworthy, considering there were only a dozen or so women in the nation serving in that capacity.

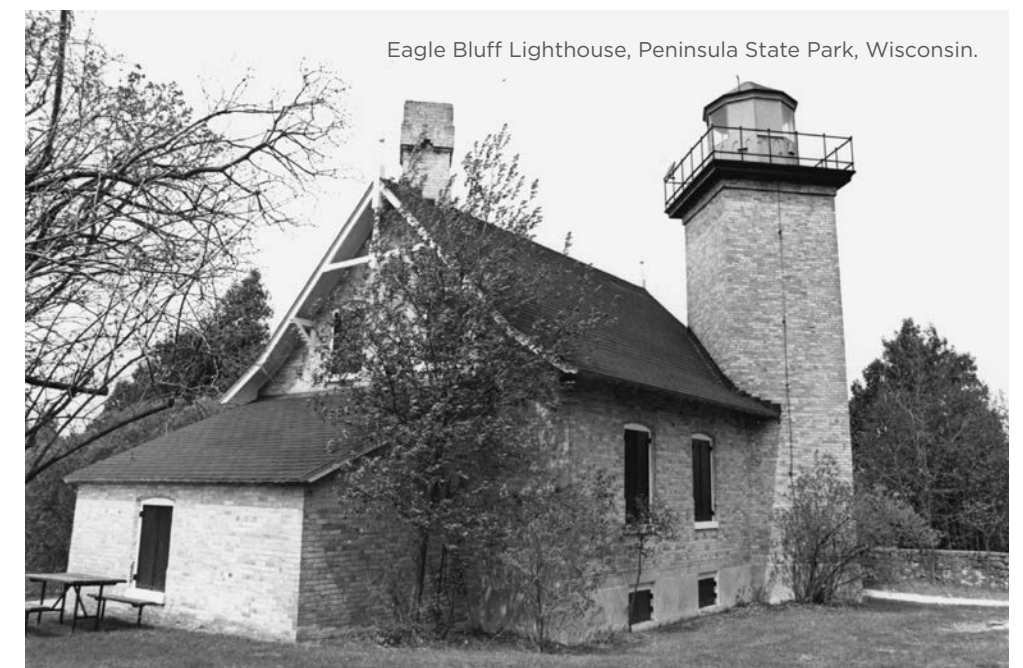
Katherine resigned her position in 1898, due to her age and her continued poor health. That

opened the door for Minnie Cochems to assume the role of assistant keeper, a position she held until her death in 1928. William Cochems remained at the lighthouse for another five years after that. His tenure of nearly 39 years was the longest ever at a single lighthouse in Door County.

Henry Stanley, the young adventurer from Nordland, was remembered along with his family and many other keepers of the light over the years at a ceremony in September 2014. The Door County Historical Society, along with members of the United States Coast Guard Station in Two Rivers, Wisconsin, raised a replica of the original U.S. Lighthouse Service pennant at the Eagle Bluff Lighthouse Museum.

“In raising the official pennant that first flew over the lighthouses in 1869, we are honoring the men and women who served—and continue to serve—as the guardians of our American water boundaries,” the museum curator said. For Stanley, who served and who brought three more keepers into service, including two pioneering women, the pennant would have been a familiar site, and the day would have been a proud one.

Jeff Sauve is a former NAHA archivist. His new true-crime narrative, Murder at Minnesota Point, is available through Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and other retailers. He gives special thanks to Dale Hovland, NAHA volunteer, for his invaluable research assistance on this article.



A CENTENNIAL HIGH-WATER MARK FOR THE BYGDELAG

BY KRISTINA WARNER, ARCHIVIST

Valdres Samband (*samband* means “connection” or “union”) was founded in June 1899, when a group of Valdres emigrants and their descendants held their first gathering at Minnehaha Park, in Minneapolis. It marked the beginning of the bygdelag movement in North America.

A *bygd* is a rural settlement. *Lag* means “group” or “class.” As more Norwegian emigrants formed their own groups based on the regions and settlements in Norway from which they had come, the bygdelag movement gained momentum in North America. This was especially true after Norway gained its independence from Sweden in 1905. With independence came a strengthened sense of Norwegian identity, both in the homeland and abroad.

The bygdelag were a place to seek cultural familiarity in the new environment of the United States and Canada. The groups were a way to sustain relationships with fellow emigrants from the home region in Norway and get news of the people who still lived there. Each lag held an annual *stevne*, a meeting or rally, with entertainment, speakers, and ways for members to enjoy traditions from their part of Norway. By 1916, an umbrella council, the Bygdelagenes Fellesraad, was formed. It was an advisory body and coordinator for joint projects among the lag.

Their greatest project, carried out in 1925, was the Norse-American Centennial celebration, held at the state fairgrounds in St. Paul, Minnesota, to observe the 100th

anniversary of organized immigration to North America from Norway. The four-day celebration, which drew more than 200,000 attendees, was the pinnacle of the bygdelag movement. Under the supervision of the Bygdelagenes Fellesraad, it was a monumental demonstration of Norwegian-American spirit and pride.

Each lag had a hand in creating the event’s success. Their combined efforts required sustained coordination and financial support. Various bygdelag gave money for the celebration through loans and through purchasing stock in the Norse-American Centennial, Inc.

The Norse-American Centennial papers in

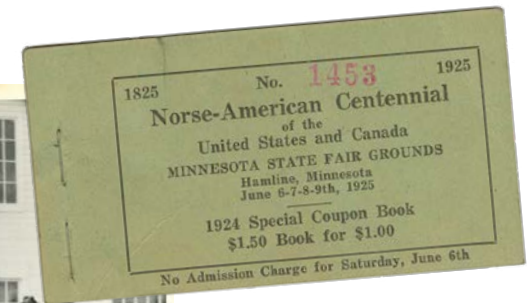
the NAHA archives document in detail the story of the centennial event and how it was planned and managed. The Bygdelagenes Fellesraad has also donated its papers to NAHA, including officers’ correspondence, newsletters, and news clippings from events such as the visit to North America by Norwegian royals in 1939.

Today, approximately 27 bygdelag are still active in North America. Most still host a *stevne*, either independently or jointly with other lag. The umbrella organization, Bygdelagenes Fellesraad still meets annually to manage shared items of business and coordinate activities among the groups, and to offer education and entertainment.

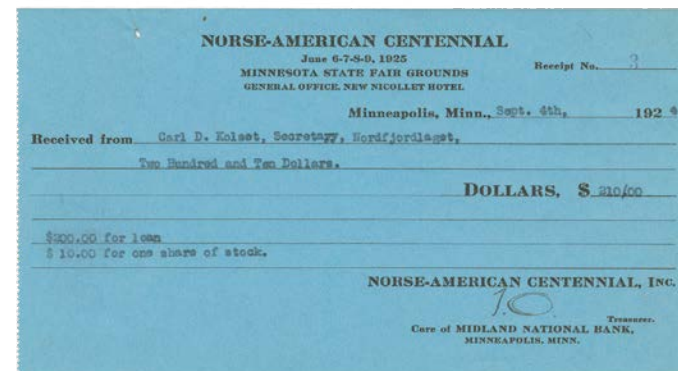
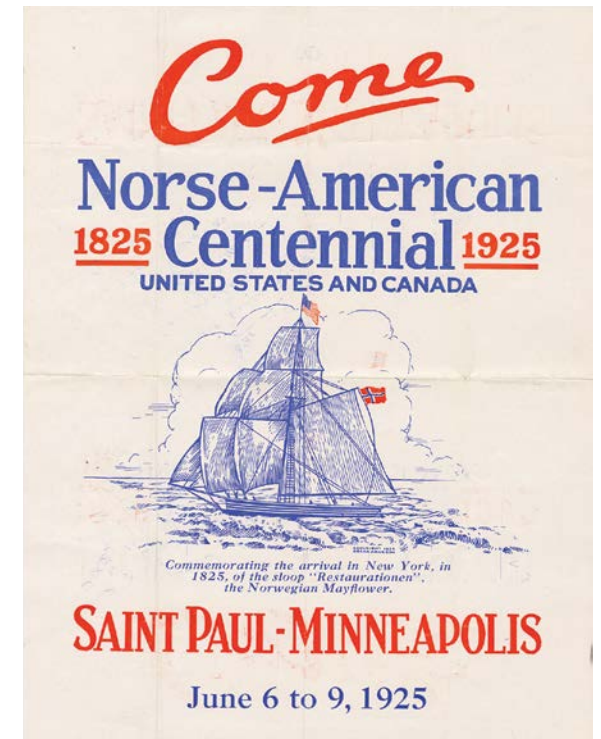
MORE TO EXPLORE

- ➔ Find these collections in the NAHA archives:
 - Bygdelagene papers (P0465)
 - Norse-American Centennial papers (P0562)
- ➔ Search for “Norse-American Centennial” in the Minnesota Digital Library (mndigital.org). Some items were contributed by NAHA.
- ➔ Link to the website and/or social media of each bygdelag on the website of Bygedagenes Fellesraad (fellesraad.com).
- ➔ Read about bygdelag in *Norwegian-American Studies*, including:
 - “The Bygdelag Movement,” Odd Sverre Lovoll, volume 25, 1972
 - “Norwegian-American Bygdels and Their Publications,” Jacob Hodnefield, volume 18, 1954
- ➔ Delve into a more extensive history in Odd Lovoll’s book *A Folk Epic: the Bygdelag in America*.

(Below) Group portrait of Sognalaget in St. Paul, Minnesota.



(Left) Coupon book for the Norse-American Centennial, June 6-9, 1925. (Below) Norse-American Centennial poster.



(Above) A receipt for financial support from Nordfjordlaget in September 1924. (Right) The Bygdelagenes Fellesraad at a meeting in St. Paul, Minnesota.



IMAGES: NAHA



NORWEGIAN-AMERICAN
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

1510 St. Olaf Avenue
Northfield, MN 55057
naha.stolaf.edu
email: naha@stolaf.edu
507-786-3221

Change Service Requested

Is your membership current?
Check the expiration date above
your address. Join or renew
online at naha.stolaf.edu.

Currents

The newsletter of the
Norwegian-American
Historical Association

Volume 184, Summer 2022

Currents Editor

Denise Logeland

Currents Designer

Jill Adler Design

Norwegian-American Historical Association Board of Directors

Scott Knudson, President
Kim Kittilsby, Vice President
Ronald Johnson, Secretary
Kyle Jansson, Treasurer
Kristin Anderson
Annette Atkins
Marit Barkve
Kari Lie Dorer
Essam Elkorghli
Gracia Grindal
Arnstein Hjelde
Jim Honsvall
Ann Marie Legreid
Terje Leiren
Debbie Miller
Karen Lillehaugen Nasby
Daron Olson
Scott Richardson
Paul Rolvaag
Marci Sortor
Ingrid Urberg
Kristen Walseth

Staff

Amy Boxrud, Executive Director
Anna M. Peterson, Editor
Kristina Warner, Archivist
Marisa Campanaro,
Project Imaging Archivist
Karen Annexstad Humphrey,
Senior Advancement Officer
Nina Oldham, Administrative Assistant

Norwegian-American
Historical Association
1510 St. Olaf Avenue
Northfield, MN 55057

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FARIBAULT, MN
PERMIT NO. 21

YOUR SUPPORT MEANS EVERYTHING TO US!

When you give to the NAHA Annual Fund,
your donation supports:

- Educational events for NAHA members and the public
- Assistance for researchers who contact NAHA
- Preservation and ongoing care for the materials in our archives
- Access to NAHA collections for scholars worldwide



Your gift will help us meet our 2022 financial goals
and secure the future of our programs.

Please use the envelope provided or consider
donating at naha.stolaf.edu. Thank you!