



# 1825-2025

## THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE NORWEGIAN "MAYFLOWER" - *THE RESTAURATION*

by Sally Hoffman



### THE SHIP - THE RESTAURATION

On July 4, 1825, a 54'-long, sloop-rigged ship, *The Restauration*, set sail from Stavanger, Norway, with what was considered the FIRST organized group of Norwegians to emigrate to the USA. Two years earlier in 1821, a group of Quakers commissioned Cleng Peerson (Klein Pedersen Hesthammer) and Knud Olsen Eide to search for places to which they could move. In 1824,

Cleng returned with the plans, and organized a group of 52 people (one later born at sea). The passengers not only raised the money for the trip, they also *bought* the ship. On October 8, 1825, after a three-month journey, they arrived in New York City, where Captain Lars Olson Helland was arrested and the ship confiscated because, by American law, he should have had only 16 passengers! Fortunately, about six weeks later, President John Quincy Adams pardoned the captain, released the ship to be sold, and rescinded the fine.

After that first voyage, over 800,000 Norwegians left Norway - a third of its population, second only to the percentage of Irish who left Ireland.

To mark the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this historic trip, a replica of the ship will be tracing the path of the original voyage. The crew, when it arrives in New York on October 9, 2025, will be wearing costumes of the period.

## THE PASSENGERS – THE SLOOPERS

Those in the first group of immigrants to arrive are now called *Sloopers* because their vessel was a single-masted sloop. In 1925, one-hundred years after the arrival of the Restauration, 85,000 Norwegians gathered in Minneapolis to celebrate the Centennial. It was there that the Sloop Society of America was formed.

<https://sloopersociety.org>

## WAS YOUR ANCESTOR A SLOOPER?

This 1895 list is the generally accepted list of names of those believed to have been passengers.

1. Lars Larsen/Larson Jeilane
2. Martha Jorgensdatter Larson
3. Margaret Allen Larsdatter/Larson Atwater
4. Cornelius Nilsen/Nelson Hersdal
5. Kari/Carrie Pedersdatter Nelson
6. Susan Anne Corneliusdatter Nelson Lake Lightfoot
7. Nils/Nels Corneliusen Houen Nelson Jr.
8. Inger Corneliusdatter Nelson Mitchell
9. Martha Karine Corneliusdatter Nelson Fellows
10. Johannes Jacobsen Steine/Steen Soledal/Suldal
11. Martha Svendsdatter Steen
12. Martha Helene Johannesdatter Steen Heffron
13. Aanen/Oyen Toresen Brastad Thompson
14. Bertha Karine/Caroline Aadnesdatter Thompson
15. Sara Aanensdatter Thompson Olmstead Richey
16. Anne Marie Kristine Aanensdatter Thompson Richey
17. Berta Karine/Caroline Aanensdatter Thompson
18. Daniel Stensen Rossedal/Rosdail
19. Britha/Bertha/Betsy Johanne Ovesdatter Rosdail
20. Elen/Ellen Danielsdatter Rosdail Cothrien
21. Ove/Ovee Danielsen Rosdail
22. John Danielsen Rosdail
23. Lars Danielsen Rosdail
24. Helga/Huldah Danielsdatter Rosdail Olson
25. Tormod/Thormod/Thomas Jensen Madland Hole
26. Siri Iversdatter Madland
27. Rakel/Rachel Tormodsatter Madland Olson Helland
28. Guri/Gurine/Julia Tormodsatter Madland Hougas
29. Serine/Serena Tormodsatter Madland Anderson
30. Simon Pedersen Lihme/Lima]
31. Maren Karine Storchersdatter Lima
32. Greta Bergithe Simonsdatter
33. Severine Marie Simonsdatter
34. Simon Simonsen
35. Nils/Nels Nilsen/Nelson Hersdal
36. Britha/Bertha/Betsy Christophersdatter Nelson
37. Jacob Andersen Slogvik
38. Siri/Sara Larsdatter/Larson Jeilane
39. Henrik/Henry Christophersen Hervik/Harwick
40. Bertha \_\_\_\_\_sdatter Harwick
41. Ole Jonsen/Johnson Eide
42. Gudmund Danielsen Haukaas/Hougas
43. Torstein /Thorstein Olsen Bjorland/Bjaadland
44. Jorgen/George Johnsen Hesja
45. Endre/Andrew Salvesen Dahl Anderson
46. Halvor Iversen/Iverson Reveim/Revheim
47. Niels/Nels Toresen Brastad Thompson
48. Ole Olsen Hetletveit/Hetletvedt
49. Lars Olsen/Olson Helland
50. Peder Eriksen Meland
51. Research ongoing
52. Research ongoing
53. Research ongoing



## WHO WERE THE SLOOPERS?

According to an article published by Vesterheim Museum in Iowa, *The Sloopers of 1825*, the members of the group were Quakers and Haugeans, a Lutheran sect that supported the ideas Hans Nielsen Hauge (1771 to 1824). Hauge, not an officially approved Lutheran minister, had some ideas similar to Martin Luther and led a nation-wide revival in Norway. Many of the Norwegian settlers in North Dakota adhered to the ideals of Hauge. In Norway, there



is a very well-known painting "Low Church Devotion" by Adolph Tidemand (1814-1876) that shows a Haugean meeting. It is so well known, in fact, that some local readers may have seen prints of the painting in the homes of their great grandparents.

## INTERNATIONAL BICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION

The Norwegian Emigrant Museum in Norway has created a webpage, **Crossings**, devoted to the voyage and the bicentennial <https://crossings.norwegianamerican.com> Contact [Crossings200@annomuseum.org](mailto:Crossings200@annomuseum.org) if you would like to receive the newsletter, which lists daily events sponsored by almost every Norwegian-related organization in the USA and Canada - podcasts, exhibits, lectures, concerts, courses, conferences, classes, celebrations.

## HISTORIC GRUE CHURCH IS ON THAT LIST: LEFSE AND LEMONADE

The Fifth Annual Lefse and Lemonade fundraising event at Historic Grue Church is one of the celebrations on the list. The public is invited to hear Fargo/Maddock musician, Lanny Faleide, and enjoy lefse and lemonade, view Sharon Watson's collection of over 150 commemorative Traill County church plates, and best of all, see the progress made on the renovation of the 1891 building.

WHEN: Sunday June 15,  
12 noon to 2:30 pm

WHERE: Historic Grue Church and  
Cultural Center  
1423 168<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Rural Buxton

FOOD: Free-will offering lunch - Timmy's Pastime Eats  
Fresh Lefse and Lemonade  
Norwegian Specialty Bake Sale

AND MORE!

[Historic Grue Church](https://www.historicgruechurch.org) <https://www.historicgruechurch.org>

[Buxton in Bloom](http://www.buxtoninbloom.com/) <http://www.buxtoninbloom.com/>

[North Dakota Council on the Arts](https://www.arts.nd.gov/) <https://www.arts.nd.gov/>

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CROSSINGS

NORWAY & NORTH AMERICA 1825 - 2025

MUSIC BY

Lanny Faleide

& THE POLE BARN JAMMERS

# 5th Annual

## Lefse & Lemonade Fundraiser

Historic Grue Church & Cultural Center  
1423 168th Ave NE, Rural Buxton, ND

**Sunday June 15, 2025**  
**12:00 - 2:30 pm**

12:00 to 2:30    **Free Will Lunch**  
Food by Timmy's Pastime  
**Fresh Lefse & Lemonade**  
Other activities:  
Church Anniversary Plate Collection Display  
Unique & Handmade Silent Auction  
Norwegian Specialty Bake Sale

1:00 to 2:30    **Music by: Lanny Faleide & the Pole Barn Jammers**

[www.HistoricGrueChurch.org](http://www.HistoricGrueChurch.org) for more information

NORTH Dakota

Council on the Arts

Be Legendary.

Thank you for your tax-deductible support! Thank you for your tax-deductible support!

GO FUND ME

THIS summer's goal is \$15,000

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/Historic-Grue-Church-North-Dakota>

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