

BENRUD

MAREN LENA CARL OLAVA ANTON

2018

Greetings Cousins!!!

As another year draws to a close, we look back at the things that have taken place in 2018. Our world continues to see the trials and tribulations of surviving the challenges set before us. Like a family, communities have come together to assist others in a time of strife after the many disasters that have taken place this year.

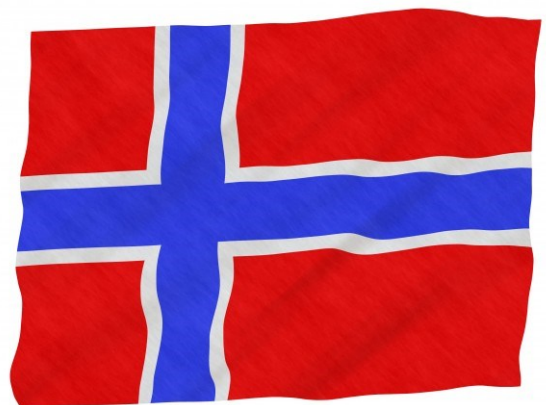
We remember our loved ones that have left us and relish in their memory, keeping their love close to our hearts by carrying on the traditions they brought to our lives such as baking of sandbakkels, rosettes, krumkake and of course lefse!!! We also welcome the new members of our family and look forward to sharing our traditions with you!

During this holiday season let us remember our all of those we have lost and embrace those around us! May you all find peace and joy at this time.

Mange velsignelser,

Kameo "Benrud" Maynard

Anton Branch



Officers and Directors

PAST PRESIDENT

Iris Othrow
2455 Hillpoint Road
McFarland, WI 53558
608-698-0277
IrisOthrow@aol.com

PRESIDENT

Carolyn Swanson
3907 Idaho Avenue N
Crystal, MN 55427
763-533-1070 (Home)
763-300-9325 (Cell)
cswanson@repgroupinc.com

VICE PRESIDENT USA

Diane Piper
302 Eagle Avenue
Rockland, WI 54653
608-487-1993
dianepiper4@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT CANADA

Douglas Olson
1407 21 Street NW
Calgary, AB T2N 2M1
403-686-1665 (Home)
403-651-424 (Cell)
doug.olson@shaw.ca

SECRETARY

Jan Strand
6781 County 23 Blvd
Kenyon, MN 55946
507-789-6633
farmalto@yahoo.com

BENRUD READER EDITOR

Kameo Maynard
20427 W Clark Ave, #5
Galesville, WI 54630
608-865-1247
benrudreader@gmail.com

TREASURER

Paul Benrud
3072 Wendt Way
Sun Prairie, WI 53590
608-837-9880
benrud@frontier.com

FAMILY CHAPLAIN

Edith Robers
1829 Markham Drive
Bethlehem, PA 18017
610-882-0418
Ebr50@aol.com

FAMILY TREE

Julie Backus
891 N Roadrunner Road
Apache Junction, AZ 85119
414-745-4362
jewelsdi@yahoo.com

Chris Backus
216 3rd Ave NW
Pacific, WI 98047
316-305-2469
Chris.Backus@use.startmail.com

ASSISTANT HISTORIAN

Marie Marin
PO Box 1357
Woodruff, WI 54568
715-356-9453
Mcpmdcm65@yahoo.com

ANTON HISTORIAN

Linda Othrow
2455 Hillpoint Road
McFarland, WI 53558
608-838-3388 (Home)
608-770-8145 (Cell)
Lindie123057@yahoo.com

HEAD MAREN HISTORIAN

Greg Olson
291 Driftwood Street
West Salem, WI 54669
608-526-4734
greg.olson15@yahoo.com

ASSISTANT CARL HISTORIAN

Vacant

ASSISTANT LENA HISTORIAN

Vacant

ASSISTANT OLAVA HISTORIAN

Vacant

BENRUD WEB PAGE

Dan Kobler
2896 Oneida Street
Denver, CO 80207
303-725-5141
dan@dankobler.com

ANTON BRANCH DIRECTOR

Kameo Maynard
20427 W Clark Ave, #5
Galesville, WI 54630
608-865-1247
kbrmaynrd75@gmail.com

LENA BRANCH DIRECTOR

Manita Murphy
1207 240th St
Algona, IA 50511
515-320-2091
murphyconst@gmail.com

Hayley Koeritz
116 ½ West Main Street
LuVerne, MN 56156
hayley.koeritz@gmail.com

CARL BRANCH DIRECTOR

Erik Benrud
2704 South Street
Philadelphia, PA 19146
267-294-8359
erikecon@gmail.com

Jan Strand
6781 County 23 Blvd
Kenyon, MN 55946
507-789-6633
farmalto@yahoo.com

OLAVA BRANCH DIRECTOR

Kaia Lee Seefelt
6020 Pinewood Lane
Minnetonka, MN 55345
612-201-7377
hiyakaia@mac.com

Paula O'Keefe
1004 Lakeview Drive
Burnsville, MN 55337
612-750-0591
pcokeefe@comcast.net

MAREN BRANCH DIRECTORS

Gay Gilbertson
1815 Plante Street
Eau Claire, WI 54703
715-579-1141 (Home)
745-835-3578 (Cell)
gilbegay@gmail.com

Marianne Vevang Groeland
569 Adams Street
Burlington, WI 53015
847-815-7608
mgroeland2003@yahoo.com

Hello Cousins !

I was "sorting" through some papers of my mother's (Agnes Olson Peterson) when I found this poem. The poem was written by Willis Corbitt. My mother found it in the library at Norskedalen in 1992 in a book "Our Ancestors from Norway to the USA", compiled by Mrs. Jack McClanahan, LaCrosse WI 1990.

I think that I shall never see
The finish of a Family Tree,
As it forever seems to grow
From roots that started very low.
In foreign lands and distant climes
From them grew trunks and branching limb
That dated back to time so dim.
One seldom knows exactly when
The parents met and married then
With odd named children, row on row.
Though a verse like this is made by me,
And the end's in sight as you can see;
Tis not the same with Family Trees
That grow on through centuries.

What more can I say, except to encourage you to send all updates to Julie Backus to be included in your Benrud Family Tree! Also, please check the Benrud Family Website to read more information !

Takk for sist! Historian and Cousin, Marie Peterson Marin (Maren Branch)

SALLY FORTH



Check out the Benrud Family

Web Site

Go to www.benrudfamily.org to find your family history, past Benrud Readers, photos and more.

UPDATES AND NEWS: A new email address has been created for the Benrud Reader. All submissions can be sent to benrudreader@gmail.com.

Family updates (births, deaths, marriages, address) should still be sent to Julie Backus.

UPDATE

Benrud Vision Statement

The members of the Benrud Family foster traditions of family, heritage, and culture.

Benrud Mission Statement

The Benrud Family will provide opportunities for members to maintain contact with one another, to learn about the culture common to all of them, and to gather in celebration of their family heritage.



MEMORIAL: The Benrud Board discussed a memorial for Curt Benrud, past Anton Direct. It was decided that a Red Sunset Maple tree would be planted in Curt's memory by the Benrud Little White Chapel.

How Many 100 year floods in a decade?

August of 2018 was a very wet one in the Coulee Region. Many areas south of La Crosse were hit very hard with torrential rains which caused massive flooding in the Coon Valley area. Norskedalen had damage and a great deal of mud. The entrance was blocked by downed trees and the exit road was completely washed out near the Chapel. The Chapel was not affected by the water at all. Lori Dubczak, Director of Norskedalen said, "The water parts when it gets anywhere near the Chapel and runs to either across the road or behind the Chapel.....kind of like Moses and the Red Sea." The Norskedalen was actually closed for two days for clean up. The weekend after the rains several volunteer teams arrived ready to help in every way possible to clean up this landmark. Thankfully, there was not any physical damage to any of the historic buildings.



Skogdalen Lutheran Church and Cemetery (which includes many Benrud graves) suffered much more damage. Unfortunately, 90% of the gravestone markers were knocked over from the rushing waters. The church was saved by a line of trees diverting the water.



Note from the President

2020 Reunion Planning: We are busy planning the 2020 Benrud Family Reunion!! The Reunion will be in La Crosse, July 31-August 2, 2020.

Friday, August 3, 2018, the Board met at Norskedalen to plan the 2020 reunion. We will be spending Saturday, August 1, 2020 at Norskedalen. There will be games, classes, music, tours and food!! Details to follow as we get closer to the reunion.

We learned that Discover Wisconsin is going to do a story on Norskedalen, which is scheduled to air March 2019. Iris Othrow, Past President, will meet with them and tell them the history of the Benrud Little White Chapel. Check the website, discoverwisconsin.com, to find out when it will be shown in your area.

Carolyn Swanson, President

Anton



Mike and I were on a river cruise in France and on the same cruise is another Benrud cousin. We sat at their table for breakfast this morning (October 14) and through casual conversation discovered we are related.

(L to R) Herb & Ruth (Peterson) Hickey, Iris & Mike Othrow

Xanthe Rowe graduated from Georgetown, Texas High School in May 2018. She is continuing her education at Madison College in Wisconsin. Xanthe is the granddaughter of Mike and Iris Othrow. Congratulations Xanthe!!!



L-R Jon Othrow, Kitty Othrow, Troy Othrow, Morgan Rae, Erin Othrow Mee, Lennox Mee and PJ Mee

Morgan graduated in May 2018 from Capital University Law School in Columbus, Ohio. Morgan and Troy will be married October 5, 2019. They live in Appleton, Wisconsin. Morgan works for the Public Defenders Office in Oshkosh, and Troy is in grad school at the University of Oshkosh.

Olava



On November 3, 2018 a simple dinner party turned into a small Family Reunion. Allen Benrud of the Anton Branch was looking to hire a chef to come into his home and prepare a special birthday dinner for his wife, Amy. The chef turned out to be Joel Olsen of the Olava Branch. In the first two photos above Chef Joel is preparing dishes as the guests observed. The third photo is (l to r) Allen Benrud, his wife Amy Gilliland and Chef Joel Olsen!!



Eric Lee Wenzel married Ashley Aide. September 15 , 2018. He is from the Olava branch. In the picture are also Barb, Del and Kerry Vanderploeg family. Along with the entire Harland E Lee family. Kristin, Kathryn and Kären families.

Carl

August 4, some of the Benrud cousins gathered together at the Covered Bridge in Zumbrota, MN to congratulate Erik and Evgenia Benrud on their recent marriage. Welcome to the family Evgenia!!



Pictured above: Marlin & Reenie Benrud, Nathlye Benrud, Elnor Bollum, and Evelyn Benrud.

Evelyn Benrud lost her courageous battle with pancreatic cancer on October 1, 2018. She is survived by her children, Carolyn (Wayne) Swanson, Susan (Steve) Wendt and Julie (Lance) Luhman; grandchildren, Matt (Stacey) Swanson, Marcus Wendt, Nicole (Jeff) Carlson, and step-granddaughter Valerie Luhman; and great-granddaughter, Elli Swanson. Evelyn was preceded in death by her husband Carl K. Benrud and infant son, Kenneth Carl Swanson.



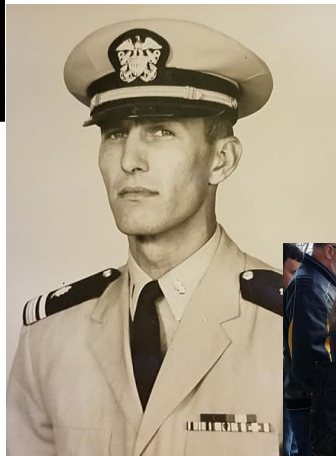
Lena



David W. Halverson passed away at the age of 50 on July 17, 2018. Our sincere condolences to his mother, Joan Martin, his son Nicolas, and their entire family.



Mason Koeritz graduated in May from Concordia University in Nebraska with a BA in Music Composition and a BS in Chemistry. He graduated with high distinction and received the Outstanding Student Award in Science. Congratulations, Mason!!



In April, Monte Kern passed away at the age of 81. Monte was married to Verlynne Olson and served in the Navy for 20+ years. What an immense sacrifice this was for Monte and his family. Verlynne received the flag after the 21-gun salute. Thank you, Monte, for your service.



Pictured here are Heidi Koeritz and her mother, Arlys. They have attended the St. James Lutheran Church in Northrop, MN for many years. Heidi is the organist. In 2016, fire consumed the church and it burned to the ground. Now after two years, they are happy to announce the dedication of their new structure. Heidi sums it up as follows: "The date has finally been set! I have had so many different thoughts, feelings, joys, sorrows, ups, downs, and everything in between in the last 31 months that I am finding it hard to put my emotions into just a few words. After the fire on March 30, 2016 I wrote: I know the Church is more than just a building, but it is my faith home. It is where I go to have my bucket filled with Word and Sacrament, confession and absolution, hymns and liturgy, and the beautiful coming together of the congregation in worship and praise. God is indeed good. It's STILL all about Jesus. We REJOICE in our foundation!"

Maren



Julie Maren Olson married Lane Frederick Backus on August 3, 1968 at the Immanuel Lutheran Church, near Cashton, Wisconsin and the home church to the Benrud immigrants. They celebrated their 50th anniversary on August 3 and 4 near where they were married, including a tour through the Amish country around Cashton and to the overlook at Grand Dad's Bluff in La Crosse. Julie has been the editor of the family tree since 1980. She is the daughter of Immanuel and Gladys Olson, granddaughter of Ole and Mae Olson and great-granddaughter of Maren and Carl Olson. Julie and Lane live in Apache Junction, Arizona.

Kayleah Elle Backus, born at home in Pacific, Washington on September 4, 2018. She is the daughter of Sophorn and Chris Backus (family tree co-editor). She is the granddaughter of Julie and Lane Backus of Apache Junction, Arizona.



Dustin Piper is engaged to Vanessa Jefson. Their wedding date is September 21, 2019. Dustin is the son of Dale and Diane (Olson) Piper.

Updates Needed

In the last year many of your children have grown up and moved to their own places. Be sure we have their addresses.

Also, new babies have been born and others in our family have died, we need your information to keep accurate records.

In our age of technology e-mail addresses are an important addition. Please e-mail jewelsdi@yahoo.com with your e-mail address or changes.

Please use the form below or the form on our web site (www.benrudfamily.org) to send
new information and changes only to:

Julie Backus



Family Tree Update Form

Family Branch (circle one): Maren, Olava, Lena, Carl, Anton

Name _____
First Middle Maiden Last

Address _____
City State or Province Zip or Postal Code Country

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Occupation/Hobby _____

Marital Status (Circle one) Single, Married, Divorced, Widow, Widower

Marriage/Divorce _____

(Circle One) Name of Spouse Birth date of Spouse Date of Marriage or Divorce

Birth/Adoption _____

Location of birth Date of Birth and adoption

Death _____

Name Date Burial Location Cause of death



BENRUD READER
891 N. Roadrunner Road
Apache Junction, AZ 85119