



Jim and Nanc Skaret

by Marcia Hansen

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Jim and Nanc Skaret have been residents of Bismarck since 1978. They raised two boys in Bismarck. Their oldest son and daughter in law and their only grandchild live in Bismarck. Jim is a Civil Engineer by profession and Nanc is a Dental Assistant by profession. They met in the Twin Cities area when Jim was about to graduate from the University of Minnesota. They were married in December 1968 shortly after Jim began a 3 year tour of duty in the US Army. Both are now retired and enjoy spending a portion of their winter in Arizona.

Jim and Nanc have been members of the Sons of Norway since 2003. Jim is a Tronder with both his grandmother and grandfather on his father's side of the family having emigrated from the Trondheim area of Norway around 1900. Jim grew up in Fargo near the neighborhood where his father was born and raised by his Norwegian parents and near some of his father's relatives of Norwegian descent.

Nanc is a Telemarker, with her great grandfather and great grandmother on her father's side emigrating from the town of Hoydalsmo in the province of Telemark. Nanc grew up on a farm near Delevan, MN, less than ½ mile from the original family farmstead built by her great grandfather in the 1860's. While growing up on the farm, her Norwegian grandmother lived with her family. Thus, an interest in her Norwegian heritage began years ago.

Both Jim and Nanc have been actively involved in projects and activities of the Sverdrup Lodge since they became members. Nanc currently serves as the Reservations Coordinator for our lodge, taking reservations for our monthly socials and coordinating with the staff at the Bismarck Eagles, a position she has held for several years. She has also participated in arranging table decorations for monthly socials, has conducted Hardanger and Norwegian baking workshops for lodge members, and has been a table server at the annual Lutefisk Dinner.

Jim has been the Lefse Sale Coordinator for this lodge since 2010, one of our major fundraisers. He has also served several years as a table server at the annual Lutefisk Dinner when he hasn't been busy selling the last few packages of lefse.

Nanc has become an experienced Genealogist, having researched the Norwegian family histories of multiple branches of their families and assisted others research their family histories. They have traveled to Norway twice (2004 and 2010) and have established contact with Norwegian relatives in the Trondheim and Telemarken areas. They maintain regular contact with relatives in both areas by email and on Facebook. Jim and Nanc are members of the Trondelag and Telemarken Stevnes and have attended several of the annual Stevnes.