

Christmas 2012



Christmas is near and a Year is gone away. The year has been almost normal for us, but we have been more home.

I started the year been out of job, my blood pressure was very low and then very high and so it was until I came to Hospital in June. They found an inflammation in my stomach and after 4 weeks I got better.

In July we went on our usually summer trip to Sweden Riviera for a week. Our oldest son Ronny and his family had been driving before us, and we met them there. It was good warm days for us and we also made some shopping.

In August I was leader for a bus trip to Lofoten Island for Tjeldsund Historian Club. We were 40 members on the trip and slept one night at hotel in Svolvær. Look at netsite

<http://www.lofoten.info>. We visit The Viking house, museum and galleries, and had a great dinner at the hotel. The trip was very successfully.

September 8. Tjeldsund Historian Club made a local historian day, and our family set up a gallery of painting made of my father. We could show more than 20 original paint made by my father. It was the first time we had done it and it was very popular. My aunt Karin, my father's sister, was hostess for the gallery and started talking about his life.



My aunt Karin Eriksen and I, Sept.8.

This year I have made contact to a Dragland-member living in Sweden, and he have given me lot of new records to the Dragland-family. I have got answer to many questions and now I understand more how the emigration started for the Draglands. First emigrated Daniel, Mikal and Nicoline in



Painting done by my father Holter Jensen

1887, and it have been told that they already had family in America. Who could it be?

Their father Ole Thorsen had an older brother, Nils Thorsen, who also came up here from Sogn, West-Norway. He lived some year at Dragland farm, but built a farm in Lavangen (close to where I live), and had 7 children. In 1875 he sold the farm and emigrated with whole family. They came to Webster in Minnesota (south of Minneapolis) and settled there. In 1877 died their oldest son and in 1881 died Nils Thorsen. Rest of the family left Webster and came to Aneta in North Dakota (close to Grand Forks), and here they settled and build up family. One of their sons started using Lavanger as familynome, the rest used Nelson. Maybe some of you have heard talking about those family-name. I now believe that it was this family Mikal, Daniel and Nicoline had been in contact with before they emigrated. Daniel settled in Sharon, Mikal in Grand Forks, both close to Aneta.

The new generation now have taken over Dragland-farm in Norway. Kristians



Hanna and Theodor Olsen at Dragland farm. Theodor was the oldest son of Ole Thorsen and was the brother of Mikal, Daniel, Lars, Thomas Dragland.

two sons and daughter spent a lot of time last summer at Dragland. They painted the house and also are planning to fix up the farm. I am very glad that they will take care of the farm, and hope they will spend lot time there.

We are now planning Christmas. This year we will spend Christmas evening with our oldest son Ronny and his family. Grandchild Saga is so funny and we are so happy to have her here very often. She will be 2 years old

in March. Ronny is captain on the ship and he have to be at sea one year and home next. As we have both sons close, we are able to have much familymeeting during Christmas, and we look forward to that.

I hope you all will have a fine Christmas and we wish you a Mary Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Best regards Per-Harald Jensen, Norway.