

Halvor E. Bonde¹ and Martine P. Amundson, Charter Members of West Norway Lake Lutheran Church

*Festskrift*² provides this information:

"Halvor I. Bonde, born in Valdres. Married with Martine P. Amundson, born in Valdres. Came to Rice County."
(Multiple other documents show middle initial "E", not "I.")

A Family Tree listing^{**} has this information:

Halvor Bonde was born in 1845 in Norway. He had four sons and six daughters with Marthina Bonde between 1868 and 1892. He died on November 5, 1931, in San Francisco, California, at the age of 86.

Another Family Tree listing^{**} has:

Marthina Bonde was born in 1850 in Norway. She had ten children with Halvor Bonde, one child with Halvor Einarsen, and three children with Halvor E Bonde. She died on August 1, 1926, in Beltrami, Minnesota, at the age of 76

A Norwegian baptism record³ shows that Halvor was born in Vang, Valdres, Oppland Norway on August 31, 1845. His parents were Einar Halvorsen and Berith Olsdatter Bonde. Evidently, the Bonde name came from his mother's family farm.

A passenger list⁴ shows that Halvor Bonde, age 3, was on the brig Concordia sailing from Bergen May 12, 1849. He sailed with Ener Bonde (49), Brithe Bonde (57, obviously incorrect), and Tosten Bonde (6). The same information is found in the record^{**} of Concordia's arrival in New York on July 10, 1849.

Halvor E. Bonde is listed^{**} among the Civil War soldiers, 2nd Regiment, Minnesota Cavalry. A Family Tree^{**} entry for Halvor has a photo of a young man in a Union Army uniform. Presumably, his military service was in the 1862-65 time frame.

In the 1875 census^{**} of Kerkhoven, Swift County, Minnesota, we find Halvor E. Bonde (age 29) with Martine (25), Edvart (7), Betsey (5) and Anne (2). In the 1880 census^{**}, Halvor Bonde (age 35) is in Hayes Township, Swift County. With him are Martine (30), Edward (12), Betsey (10), Anne (7), Ida (5), and Alfred (2).

There is a Halvor E. Bonde, age 39, in the 1885 census^{**}, living in Kerkhoven, Swift County. Also in the household is Petra (34), Edward (17), Karoline (15), Regina (13), Eida (10), Alfred (7), Hanna (5), Thomus (2). (ELCA records, below, show that Petra is Martine's middle name.)

Some of the childrens' birth and baptism dates are found in ELCA records^{**}: Betzy Caroline, b. 1/22/1870; Anne Regine, b.5/20/1873; Eida, b. 3/1/1876; Alfred, b. 2/4/1878; Hannah Theoline, b. 10/30/1880; Thomas, b.1/16/1883; Oscar, b. 4/25/1886. Norway Lake is listed as the baptiwm site for the first 6, while Oscar was baptised in Grove City.

For the eldest child, Edward Bonde, there is a Social Security claim^{**} showing he was born 7 May 1868 in Meeker County. The 1920 census (below) indicates that two more daughters were born around 1892.

The 1920 census^{**} has Halvor E. (age 74) and Martina (69) Bonde in Summit, Beltrami, MN. With them are sons Edward (61) and Thomas (38) and (twin?) daughters Ella (28) and Cora (28). The parents year of immigration is shown as 1861, obviously incorrect as to Halvor, who arrived in New York in 1849. It may refer to Halvor's arrival in Minnesota.

In summary, Halvor was born in Norway in 1845, emigrated with his parents in 1849. came to Rice County, then into Meeker County, then Swift County, then Beltrami County, then San Francisco. Along the way, he served in the Union Army. He and Martina raised 10 children.

Unfortunately, we were not able to locate a birth record or migration information for Martina. However, family information^{**} lists the Ness Church cemetery near Llitchfield, MN as the burial site. This is confirmed by a grave marker, which reads (according to the transcriber) *Marline Bonde, birth date unknown, died August, 1926.*

Report prepared by Earl O. Knutson, October, 2017

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- 1 Ancestry.com has been very helpful in preparing this article. A double asterisk (**) is used to denote information accessed via this source.
 - 2 "Festskrift - En Fremstilling at det Kirkelige Arbeide Norway Lake fra 1862-1916." Ved Pastorerne Mons Sotendahl og N.J. Njus. Partial translation by Debbie Boe at [http://www.debbiesgenealogy.com/Norway Lake Lutheran Churches 1862-1916.htm](http://www.debbiesgenealogy.com/Norway%20Lake%20Lutheran%20Churches%201862-1916.htm).
 - 3 Vang prestekontor, Valdres, Ministerialbok nr. 5, 1831-1845, s. 79, Viewed at media.digitalarkivvet.no
 - 4 Passenger list found on norwayheritage.com.