

## **Peder Pedersen Smedhaugen<sup>1</sup> and Berthe Olsdatter, Charter Members of the East Norway Lake Lutheran Church**

Peder Pedersen Smedhaugen<sup>2</sup> was born April, 1827 to Peder Pedersen Smedhaugen and Siri Hansdatter Skindeliën. He was born on the Grøtaasen farm in Vest Torpa, Nordre Land, Oppland, Norway.

Peder (age 22) married Berte Marie Olsdatter Hamborg (age 23) at Lunde Kirke in Torpa on December 26, 1848 (Land parish register #10, page 120B). Berthe's parents were Ole Hansen Hamborg and Marthe Hansdatter Smedsrud of Vest Torpa. Berthe was born on December 11, 1825 on the Harstadeie farm in Vest Torpa.

The 1865 Norwegian census for Nordre Land shows the following occupants of Smedhaugen, Gard #92:

- (1) *Peder Pedersen, Gaardbruker selveier, age 38;*
- (2) *Berthe M. Olsdtr, hans kone, age 39;*
- (3) *Peder Pedersen, deres son<sup>3</sup>, age 17;*
- (4) *Marthea Pedersdatter, deres datter, age 10;*
- (5) *Susanna Pedersdatter, deres datter, age 6;*
- (6) *Oline Pedersdatter, deres datter, age 3, and*
- (7) *Sigri Hansdatter, hans moder and foderaadskone, age 53*

(Digitalarkivet 1865 telling for Land).

The entire family moved<sup>4</sup> to and worked at the Nordre Lien farm under Lunde from 1867 to 1875 after they gave up their farm. This may be another reason the family decided to emigrate to America between 1869 and 1874.

Peder Smedhaugen's son Peder Lien arrived in America in 1869 with his aunt Marit and uncle Thore and their children<sup>5</sup>. Four years later in 1873, Peder the elder sailed from Oslo on a prepaid ticket aboard the ship Haakon Adelsten<sup>6</sup> to start a new life for his family in America. A year later Peder the elder's wife Berthe Marie Olsdatter, age 48, and daughters Mathea (17), Susanne (12), Olene (8), and Matilde Helene (6) sailed from Oslo on June 18, 1874 aboard the same ship to join their father and brother in Norway Lake, Minnesota<sup>7</sup>.

Since all of Peder the elder's family was in the Norway Lake area before 1875, they were in a position to be charter members of East Norway Lake.

Peder the elder bought the S ½ of NW 1/4 Section 11 in Arctander Township from Lewis Harrington for \$240 in 1877, just north of his son Peder the younger's homeplace.

A grave marker at East Norway Lake Church shows<sup>8</sup>

*Peder Pederson Smedhaugen, born May 19, 1827 and died at age 55 years, 2 months<sup>9</sup>.*

Berthe outlived Peder by 30 years. A grave marker at First Lutheran Church of Norway Lake shows

*Berthe Maria Smehaugen, born 11 Dec 1825, died 12 January 1912.*

Edited by Earl O. Knutson.

- 1 This page is a severely condensed version of a report by Pat Lindgren, Marianne Kultum, Virgil Ronholdt, Hildegard Lien, and Orville Hamborg, and shared by Pat Lindgren. Citations added by Earl O. Knutson are indicated by footnotes.
- 2 Spelled Smehaugen in some records.
- 3 Note that this Peder is the **third generation** of Peder Pedersons. Also known as Peder the younger to differentiate from his father, Peder the elder. Later on, Peder the younger was also known as Peder Lien.
- 4 Probably due to a financial hardship;
- 5 Listed in the 1880 US census with the family name Skindeliën, residing in Arctander Township, Kandiyohi County, MN. The father is listed as Thor Arneson in the *Illustrated History of Kandiyohi County, 1905, Page 120.*
- 6 A passenger list seen on Norwayheritage.com shows: Peder P. Smedhaugen, age 40, was a steerage passenger on the *Haakon Adelsteen* from Christiania to New York in 1873. (Peder's age is obviously wrong.)
- 7 This sequence of migration was also stated in Boka om Land, IV, authored by Arvid Sandaker, translated by Sandra Hendrickson. On page 207, covering emigration in 1874: "Farmer's wife Berte Olsdtr. Smedhaugen, with her children Marthea, born 1856, Susanne, born 1860, Mathilde Helene, born 1868, and Oline, born 1863. Her son Peder emigrated in 1869 and the father Peder Pedersen in 1873."
- 8 Both grave marker inscriptions were copied from Findagrave.com
- 9 His date of death was June 19, 1882. *Illustrated History of Kandiyohi County, 1905, Page 121.*