Impossible Dream Came True In Norse Home

By Anne Marie Steiner

The Norse Home is a monument to countless devoted individuals and organizations working tirelessly and selflessly for many years to make a great dream come true - the dream of a comfortable and beautifully-located retirement home in Seattle built and governed by Norwegians.

It stands on the crest of Phinney Ridge across from Woodland Park, with the park and Cascades to the east - and Ballard, Magnolia, the Olympic Mountains and Puget Sound to the west.

There are varying reports as to who actually deserves credit for the original idea of *Norse Home*. Some may name one certain person, some *The Norwegian Hospital Association*, others *The Sons of Norway*. The *impossible dream* dates as far back as the 1920's and only the pages of a full-length book well researched could justly cover the history of this unique establishment with all the trials and tribulations of building such a Home for the elderly through gifts and contributions of philanthropically inclined people.

A document was placed in the cornerstone at Norse Home's dedication, June 16, 1957 "*to be of information to the descendants of the forefathers who made it possible to build this so needed home for senior citizens in the Pacific Northwest. May it always be a shrine for coming generations!"* stated its writer, Inga Froderson, founder of the Guilds, and later named "*Mother of the Norse Home*"

Too numerous to name here are all those who have served, contributed generously, and volunteered their time and efforts on behalf of this retirement home of which Norwegians in Seattle take such great pride. But, for historical purposes, the Board of Trustees during constructions, 1955-1957, should be included:

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