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DECORAH, IA

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Påske blomster

Photo by D. Barnaal

“Påske blomster” translates as “Easter flowers.” This year of 2011 finds Easter to be very late in the month of April. Even so, snow fell in many parts of the U.S. midwest during the week before Easter. The photograph shows daffodils in the snow in Decorah after a two inch snowfall on the Saturday before Palm Sunday.

The following Tuesday they were nearly buried by a five inch snowfall. Even the eagles in the world famous Decorah Eagle Nest were covered with snow; as they shook off the snow from their bodies, snow was splattered on the overhead camera lens,

obscuring internet viewing of the three eaglets in the nest.

Traditionally Easter in Norway is observed by a week-long vacation when most people traveled to their *hytter* (cabins) in the mountains for cross country skiing on the last of the snow drifts. Often for evening relaxation they read crime novels!

In Oslo it was necessary to stock up on groceries because most shops were closed for the week. And hospitals sent home as many patients as possible to permit an Easter week vacation for the staff. But the times may be changing. A recent study reported that most families in Norway now stay at home for the Easter week.

**NORDIC MALE CHORUS
Sioux City IA**



Zach Beatty

The newest and youngest member of the Nordic chorus is Zach Beatty, who lends his voice to the second tenor section.

Zach, who is 16 and a sophomore at South Sioux City NB High School, is a member of his school's Chamber Choir, the Madrigal group, and is also involved in solo vocal competition.

He was "recruited" by the pastor of his church, Rev. Randy Knuth, a Nordic chorister in the bass section. He was encouraged to join also by fellow church member and Nordic tenor Ed Stone.

Singing from an early age, Zach gives credit to his high school choir director, Gene Wagner, for inspiring him to new challenges with his voice.

The affable young man enjoys being with the older members of the Nordic songsters and says he finds the music "interesting and different." To this the chorus adds that they are delighted to have him on board.

Meantime, music has been distributed to the folders by Director Church Schuett and rehearsals are underway for the June 11th Sioux Valley Sangerfest at the Brandon SD Lutheran Church. Individual choruses will be hosting combined rehearsals

during the months preceding the Sangerfest.

Bob Hansen, Corr. Sec.

**NORWEGIAN GLEE CLUB
Minneapolis MN**



Martha Mutch

When our longtime pianist, Loryce Sivertson, retired last fall, we were very fortunate to find a fine replacement with a broad musical background, Martha Mutch. She grew up in Larimore ND (mother is half-Norwegian). Isn't it often the case, when you learn of someone with musical talent, that Norwegian heritage has played a part?

Martha attended Concordia College in Moorhead MN, majoring in music. The next stop was Northwestern University in Evanston IL, for a Masters in organ performance. She taught music in public school for one year, then went to Hamburg Germany to study organ for two more years. Upon returning to the US, she settled in Chicago and for the next 14 years worked for AT&T in computer programming.

Martha moved to Minneapolis in 1992, continuing to work in the computer field full time for four more years. She is currently organist at Roseville Lutheran Church, and has had time to pursue some rewarding hobbies such as scuba diving, travel,

gardening, knitting, tennis, volunteer for Operation Bootstrap Africa, and as a foster "Mother" for the Humane Society. Last summer, she traveled to Egypt and, while there, got in some scuba diving in the Red Sea. She is particularly interested, as many of us are, in what is evolving in that country. We are so happy this fine individual has joined the Norwegian Glee Club team. She is a great complement to our director, Carsten Slostad.

We sang at the funeral of Marlyn Lemaire Friday, March 19th, at Westwood Church in St. Louis Park. This fine gentleman joined the Glee Club in 1992, but has been in poor health for the past several years. He was a loyal and dedicated member and kept believing that he would get well and return to sing with us again. Bjorn Lasserud and Bjorn Hagen, representing the Glee Club, visited Marlyn on his last day and saw he had a disk player by his bedside; the only CD that he played over and over was one of our Glee Club CDs. It provided some pleasant memories of better days. All of us will also remember this good friend and fellow singer.

Rehearsal time is now dedicated to preparing for our Spring Concert on Sunday, April 10th, at Rosedale Lutheran Church in Roseville. Our director says we are on schedule with our practicing, so we are looking forward to a good performance. On Tuesday, April 19th, we will sing at the Vestland Sons of Norway Lodge's 25th Anniversary celebration in Minnetonka. We will be joined by a chorus from Norway. Two Glee Club members, Glenn Tollefson and this

writer, are members of this lodge, so this makes it quite special.

We had the opportunity to hear the marvelous female *Cantus* Choir from Trondheim, Norway, perform at *Mindekirken* Sunday, March 6th. Tove Ramlo-Ystad directed this talented group, who have been awarded prizes on multiple occasions. They were going on from Minneapolis to Chicago to participate in an international choir competition. They get my vote as they were outstanding.

It's great to have Bob Berndt back in his usual first tenor chair after a lengthy bout with several health issues, and to welcome back Wes Schultz, Ted Anderson and Gary Rust from their western tour with the Augsburg Centennial Singers. One concert stop was in Phoenix at the church where our former director, Tom Ohnesorge, is the music director. Tom encourages the Glee Club to tour in his area next winter. It would be hard, however, to leave Minnesota during the most lovely time of the year.

For a smile: Government surveyors came to Ole's Minnesota farm recently and said they needed to survey his lot lines. After they finished, they came to Ole with some bad news. They said that Ole's farm was not actually in Minnesota, but in Iowa. Ole said, "That's not bad; it's the best news I've had in a long time. I was just telling Lena this morning that I don't think I can stand another Minnesota winter."

Charles Engh, Corr. Sec.

© I've reached the age where the happy hour is a nap.

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("SINGERS GREETING")

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**DEADLINE FOR
 MAY-JUNE ISSUE
 May 27, 2011**

BJORNSON MALE CHORUS**Chicago IL**

Spring is in the air – so why is it still snowing? Living in the Midwest all these years, I should know better. Mother Nature holds all the cards. *Que sera, sera.*

The beginning of the New Year always seems to just lie there. We use January and February to get our bearings and make plans to pick the dates for our commitments through the month of June.

To kick things off, we appeared at the Bethesda Retirement Home in Chicago Sunday, Feb. 20th. That's the first time we have been there in several years. In the past, a couple of our singers had relatives (wives) living there, so we sang there in the spring for many years.

Wednesday, March 16th, we sang at the Edison Park Lutheran Church at their Lenten service. I think we've been singing there going on thirty years or more.

Friday, March 25th, Normennenes had their 31st annual Festival of Song at the Estonian House in Lincolnshire IL. Seven choruses took part, three Swedish, two Norwegian, one German and one Latvian. Each chorus sang two songs. Then we banded together, 100 singers, and sang six selections: "Let there be Music," "Stouthearted Men," "Sanctus," "Dear Land of Home," "You'll Never Walk Alone," and "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

The music was outstanding. Refreshments were served afterward, and a great time was had by all.

Then we'll march in the Norwegian Day parade, also in Park Ridge. This is a well-organized event, culminating in the Town Square, met by 3000-plus

happy Scandinavians. Normennenes and Bjornson then join the Grand Marshal on the Reviewing Stand and sing both National Anthems, accompanied by the Main Township High School Band. We scatter to the cheers of celebrating throngs to learn where *lapskaus* is being served. HA.

On Tuesday, May 17th, we'll be joining the evening service at *Minnekirken* in Chicago's Logan Square for a wonderful gathering of multiple singing groups to celebrate the culture we love so dearly.

In June we will be holding our annual spring dinner concert at the Avalon in Elk Grove Village. More on that next time.

Leve Sangen,



George Michals, Corr. Sec.

LUREN SINGING SOCIETY**Decorah IA**

After some cancellations of rehearsals, we wondered whether winter was finally over. As of this report, we had had another 5 inches of sloppy snow just prior to Easter. Somehow we were able to get in our Lenten services, but we had three funerals at which we sang during that same time period: Frank Holland's on March 16th, Maynard Aaker's on March 21st, and Jeanette Martinson's on March 23rd. All these were added to a Lenten service on the 16th and another on the 23rd. If those were not enough, we had scheduled a full concert at Central

Lutheran Church, Winona MN for the Sons of Norway lodge on March 20th.

With all those events, we did not get a typical March snowstorm and, except for our “snowbirds,” we had very good attendance by both singers and the audiences.

We have had added excitement in the Decorah area, and world-wide focus on the eagles’ nest. Many people have been reading and watching as the pair have laid their eggs, and then hatched and are now rearing their three eaglets.

Just prior to that busy stretch, we did our last recording sessions for a new CD, using basically the numbers we were to have sung for our concert in December. We still have to select a suitable cover and title and choose a producer.

Now we are busy preparing for the joint concert with the Norsemen, the freshman male chorus from Luther College. That will be at Decorah Lutheran Church on Sunday, May 8th, at 7 p.m. Added to the program are at least a couple selections each by the High School boys and by the Middle School boys. There should be about 200 in the grand finale numbers.

The following Sunday, May 15th, we will return to Spring Grove MN for their *Syttende Mai* observance. We’ll sing a 2:00 p.m. concert at Trinity Lutheran Church.

June 1st, the Bærum, Norway mixed chorus is to sing a 7 p.m. concert at Decorah Lutheran Church. We will sing a few selections as a welcome. Details are in the works.

We may be taking part in a Memorial Eve service at Monona IA on Sunday, May 29th. We want a

good representation and balance in the various parts.

I did receive confirmation for the NAHA-Norge presentation. My time is set for Thursday afternoon, June 16. I need to present “The Importance of Music for the Norwegian-American Immigrant” within a half-hour! I need not say that is almost impossible, but I have other ideas of presenting this in an expanded form later in this publication. See p.16 in this issue for more information on the NAHA Norge meeting.

Obituary



Frank Holland

Frank Holland made his name in the Iowa Association of General Contractors as well as the AGC of America. The Holland Construction Company was organized in 1946.

Frank was the youngest of five children born to Joseph and Mary (Herold) Holland, on Nov. 16, 1923 on a farm near Decorah. His father died in 1929, but his mother was able to keep the farm even during the Great Depression.

Frank married Vivian (Vicki) Benson in 1951. One daughter Julie and one son Rex were born to this union.

Frank joined Luren late in life. He was perhaps an inch shorter than Dave Nelson (6 ft 9 in). In recent years he

was unable to take part. Yet Luren remained an important part of his later years.

Frank died March 10, 2011.

His wife, two children and extended family survive him.



Maynard Aaker

Maynard Aaker, a long-time stalwart in Luren and NSAA, died March 16, 2011, in Decorah. He was born May 29, 1917 at rural Kenyon MN, a son of Olaf and Ellen (Solberg) Aaker.

After rural school, he graduated from Kenyon High School in 1936 and from Luther College in 1939. He and Minerva Fredrickson were married May 18, 1940. They became parents to four daughters: Kathleen, Karen, Ann and Linda.

Following a career with Skelly Oil Company, Maynard returned to Luther College to work in the Development Office. It was then, in 1967, that he became a major force in Luren and especially enjoyed the tours to Norway, including the areas of his roots in Telemark.

Maynard was active also in various other Norwegian-American groups in Madison WI, Decorah and Sun City AZ, such as Sons of Norway, Vesterheim, Norse Federation, and the Scandinavian Club. Maynard served as NSAA President from 1974-76.

He is survived by Minerva, their four daughters and their families and

10 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren.

His death marks the end of an era of great importance in Luren's long life. We have missed him in recent years and mourn his loss. We offer our deep sympathy to his family.

We sang also for the memorial service for Jeanette Martinson, widow of Rev. Emil Martinson. She and Emil were both Augsburg College graduates, where they met. Both were actively involved in music throughout their lives. For several years they had their own family singing group and in the time they spent in the Decorah area were active in Luren and Luren Auxiliary. Jeanette helped found the *Nordlys* group in conjunction with the 1996 NSAA Sangerfest in Decorah.

Jeanette died March 15, 2011 at Waukon IA. Her funeral service was March 23 at Decorah Lutheran Church, with burial at Dalton MN.

Jeanette and Emil had five children, of whom their three daughters and one son survive, along with seven grandchildren.

Dick Biehl, a Normennenes member living in Lake Mills IA, was invited by Carlton Shaw to ride along to our rehearsals. They stay overnight with Luren members and return Tuesdays.

Dick has now joined in with us and intends to sing in our concerts. We'll not take him away from Normennenes but we do give him a chance to sing, which he enjoys very much. Welcome.

Winneshiek County Fair comes a week after July 4th, and Nordic Fest is set for July 28-30. "Take a Liking to a

Viking” is this year’s Nordic Fest theme. Come to Decorah and visit us.



Don Berg, Corr. Sec.

**NORMENNENES SINGING SOCIETY
Chicago IL**

Our chorus has been active with our Tuesday rehearsals, well attended by our 14 singers. We now have four singers in their 80s, but have been lucky regarding health issues. An exception was a recent fall by Clarence Peterson after a golf outing. He is doing well after 17 stitches to his face and is “on the mend.” By the way, Clarence will be 85 in August.

Our 31st annual Festival of Song on March 25th proved to be a big success. There were six choruses performing individually, and singers from two other choruses joined us in the mass chorus, which totaled 95.

The performing choruses were: Bjornson Male Chorus; Waukegan Swedish Glee Club; Elmhurst Männerchor (German); Chicago Swedish Glee Club; Chicago Latvian Men’s Choir; and Normennenes. Other singers came from Sibelius Male Chorus (Finnish) and Schleswig-Holsteiner Sangerbund (German).

A coffee social followed the program and a great time was had by 200+ attendees.

The next performance of our chorus will be our annual Spring Concert

Saturday, April 16th at the Estonian House in Lincolnshire. We will be joined by a guest chorus, The Waukegan Swedish Glee Club, and special entertainment by “Chicago *Spelmanslag*,” a Norwegian musical group.

A buffet dinner is planned for after the concert. Also, we will join Bjornson Male Chorus at the *Syttende Mai* parade on May 15 in Park Ridge IL.

Leve Sangen,



Thor Fjell, President

**GRIEG MALE CHORUS
Canton SD**

Hearty spring greetings to all our brother singers and families of NSAA from the Grieg Male Chorus. It is interesting to write “spring” as I type this, while I am watching heavy snow fall outside my window.

Following our Jan. 2nd Christmas concert, our chorus had a very short winter break, resuming regular rehearsals the last Monday in January to prepare for two concerts in Feb. and March. We presented a Valentine’s Day concert Feb. 14th at Bethany Meadows in Brandon SD. It included several songs with a sweetheart theme. Director Karli introduced the selections with notes of interest about each number. It included also a solo by the senior member of our chorus, Julian Holter, singing “I Love You Truly” to Verna, his bride of 68 years,

with the chorus joining on the second verse.

The concert included also a sing-along and special selections on the piano by our accompanist Ruth Beck. Our thanks to Bethany Meadows for hosting our concert and the refreshments and time for fellowship following the event.

March 16th Grieg presented a concert at the Inn on Westport in Sioux Falls. Many members of our chorus have connections with neighbors and friends who now reside at the apartments at the Inn, as well as two former members of our chorus or auxiliary.

In addition to preparation for those concerts Grieg is preparing the selections for the Sioux Valley Sangerfest, hosted this year by Minnehaha Mandskor. Members of our chorus attended the first of four joint rehearsals this month, and will be attending the rehearsal hosted by the Nordic Male Chorus of Sioux City on April 18th. Grieg Chorus and Auxiliary will host the joint rehearsal on May 23rd at Grand Valley Lutheran Church.

Since our last issue, our chorus lost two former members: Jasper Myers of Canton and Art Larson of Fairview SD. Both had been active members of our chorus until health issues made it difficult or impossible to participate. Both men had received medals from NSAA, with Jasper receiving his Gold with Diamond award. Just a short time before his passing, Jasper sat front and center at one of our concerts smiling and cheering us on. Our sincere sympathy to their families.

So – if you pause a moment from joining eyes from around the world

watching the eagles' nest in Decorah on the "net," here is a greeting for a bright and beautiful spring and a blessed Easter season to all of you, from the Grieg Male Chorus.



Jerry Holter, Corr. Sec.

P.S. The camera with audio on the eagles' nest is so refined. Couldn't the members of Luren assemble by the highway in the background with their banner and sing a rousing "For Dem Hurra!?" J. H.

P.P.S. The American Bald Eagle is known for its desire for seafood. Do you suppose the lingering aroma of holiday lutefisk is attracting these magnificent birds to the Norwegian hills of Decorah? J.H.

MORE ABOUT NORSEMEN CHORUS

The 2010-11 freshmen male chorus at Luther College, who will be singing with the Luren group on Mothers' Day, May 8th, took part in the biennial National Conference of the American Choral Directors Association March 9-12 in Chicago. Nearly 5000 choral directors from all levels were present.

The performances were held at Orchestra Hall and the Auditorium Theater at Roosevelt University in downtown Chicago.

The 96 young men are directed by Dr. Tim Peter (LC'86) and rehearse each Monday, Wednesday and Friday.



Norsemen Chorus

The joint concerts have been held each year since ca. 1984. Each year a new crop of young men has joined the older (and getting still older!) Luren group for a benefit chosen by Luren. This year's cause is "Feed the Starving Children."

Many of the Norsemen move on to the other choral groups in Luther's vast music program.

The Bald Eagle Guy

The world-wide popularity of the web camera focused on a bald eagles' nest near Decorah in recent weeks has led to more questions about the man "behind the camera." His name is Bob Anderson, 60, who retired from 3M in Maplewood MN in 1996, to move to Decorah. His plan was to devote his life to the well-being of falcons and other raptors.

According to an article in the *Waterloo Courier* (April 19, 2011, page 1), Anderson used artificial insemination to breed captive falcons at his acreage near Decorah. The chicks were then released at nest boxes attached to bridges and smokestacks. Over time they produced 1500 progeny, so the falcons were removed from the endangered species list. He placed the chicks in

simulated rock boxes atop a bluff at Effigy Mounds National Monument, along the Mississippi River near Marquette IA, imprinting the idea of cliffs as nest sites.

Raptor Resource Project is a nonprofit organization Anderson founded, which sponsors the nest cam. As many as 150,000 viewers are glued to the site at any given time.

EDVARD GRIEG CHORUS Madison, WI

What is happening in Madison? Many of you who attended Sangerfest 2010 in Madison last June took the opportunity to stroll around our Capitol Square, and several of you even toured our beautiful State Capitol. If you have been watching national news these past several weeks, you are likely aware that the Capitol has been the site of large-scale demonstrations. You might be wondering what could have happened to break the tranquility of our fair city. I will attempt to give you a brief, unbiased update of recent developments.

In January our newly elected Republican governor, Scott Walker, submitted a Budget Repair Bill to the Legislature designed to deal with a reported deficit of \$140 million for the

current fiscal year ending on June 30, 2011. The proposed legislation requires that all public employees including state, local and school district workers significantly increase their annual pension contributions and health care premiums.

While these provisions are not popular with public employees, the bill also eliminates their collective bargaining rights. It was this provision that led to the demonstrations at the Capitol as it was seen as an attempt by the Governor to “bust” the unions. The resulting anger led some demonstrators to protest by occupying the Capitol building itself. Crowds in excess of 80,000 demonstrated on five consecutive Saturdays.

Despite claims to the contrary, the demonstrations were peaceful. There have been virtually no arrests, and little damage has been done to government property. Those who attended the rallies included State employees, public school teachers and administrators, nurses, municipal employees including police and firefighters, college and high school students, parents of students, grandparents and children of all ages.

Demonstrators included members of public and private unions from Wisconsin and other states such as Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Michigan, and New York. No hired professional protestors were bused in from outside Wisconsin to cause trouble.

When it looked like the governor and the leaders of the Republican-controlled State Senate were going to rush the bill to approval with little debate and public input, fourteen Democratic State Senators headed for

Illinois delaying the process, denying the quorum necessary to pass bills with fiscal impact, and allowing the public and national media an opportunity to understand the full implications of what was being proposed.

These Senators, dubbed the “Fab 14,” stayed out for three weeks until the Senate leadership stripped the bill of its fiscal content and voted to end collective bargaining for all public employees in a hastily-called late night session.

In the middle of all this turmoil, the governor released his budget proposals for the 2011-13 biennium designed to deal with Wisconsin’s \$3 billion structural deficit. This bill includes deep cuts in school and local government aids, health care, Medicaid, support for the University of Wisconsin System, environmental and energy independence programs. This led to additional protests by the groups being negatively impacted by these proposed cuts.

As this piece is being written, the latest development is that a Dane County District Judge granted a temporary restraining order (TRO) at the request of the Dane County District Attorney on the grounds that the Senate’s approval of the amended Budget Repair Bill was illegal in several respects including violation of Wisconsin’s Open Meetings Law. An extended legal battle is likely to follow. Meanwhile, recall efforts are now under way in several Senatorial districts, both Republican and Democratic, which if successful, would require the incumbents to stand for re-election.



Col. Heg statue at Wisconsin Capitol

Now you might be wondering what all of this has to do with Norwegians! One of the rallying points for the demonstrators has been at the statue of Colonel Hans Christian Heg, the Norwegian-born leader of Wisconsin soldiers who fought in the Civil War. Heg was born in Lier, Norway, and immigrated to Muskego, Wisconsin in 1840.

His unit, the Fifteenth Wisconsin Voluntary Infantry, was over 90 percent Norwegian. Heg died in September 1863 from wounds sustained at the battle of Chickamauga, and the statue was erected in 1925. If you look closely, you will notice that someone attached the following quote to the statue, "I fought for the Union. You should too.

D.J.



Dick Johnston, Corr. Sec.

NORSE GLEE CLUB Sioux Falls, SD

We now have copies in our folders of all fifteen (15) selections that we will be performing in June at the Sioux Valley Sangerfest. Some of the music hasn't been in our repertoire for more than a decade or so, hence, for most it is like beginning anew. Next week we begin a series of joint rehearsals with the other choruses of the Sioux Valley singers as we work up to the June 11th performance date in Brandon, SD.

In addition to our weekly rehearsals, the Norse Glee Club continued our community service offerings as we sang at the Trail Ridge Retirement Community two weeks ago with seasonal and traditional selections.

In these two months, within the Glee Club and the Auxiliary, four couples (Bob and Karel Amend, Gail and Diane Kristensen, Bob and Barb Osborn, and Elvin and Carol Thomsen) will be observing and celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversaries. Needless to say, lots of smiles and good cheer abound.

Equally though, it is with sadness that we report the passing of two persons close to us. The first is the mother of our director, Lyle Kroon. Lyle's mother passed away this month in Orange City, IA at age 97 having

suffered from Alzheimer's disease for a number of years.

The second passing was the wife of one of our "retired" Glee Club members and a former member of the Auxiliary herself. Hallgerd Solien, wife of Thorleif Sorlien, was born in Brumunddal, Norway and emigrated with Thorleif in 1953.

They farmed for many years near Menno, SD, then lived in Sioux Falls where they were both active with the Glee Club and the Auxiliary. Eventually, they moved to Viborg, SD. She died there at age 90 on March 18, 2011.

The Glee Club was honored to be asked, and to participate in, her memorial Service on March 21, 2011 at Bethany Lutheran Church in Viborg.

Gail Kristensen, Corr. Sec.

SONGS WE LOVE TO SING

"*Landkjending*"

(NSAA President Stavnem asked that we reprint the following from the Jan.-Feb. 1984 issue of *Sanger-Hilsen*.)

Landkjending is another magnificent production from the pen of Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson, while the music was written by Edvard Grieg. Both words and music are so admirably suited to each other that, without exception, *Landkjending* must be considered the most superb number on any concert program.

Norwegian history relates that, because of internal dissensions, the condition of (Norway) became unsafe. In view of this, Astrid fled with the infant son, Olaf Trygvasson to Gardarike, Russia, where Olaf grew up and later became a resident of

Ireland. He received a good education and became thoroughly versed in all the arts of war as well as being an exceptional athlete.

While in Ireland he became a Christian and from that day he was an ardent champion for the cause of his faith. Coming back to his own country, he was eventually chosen King and thus became the first Christian King of Norway and, as such, this is an epochal event in Norwegian history.

This production, therefore, tells of Olaf's voyage to Norway, the land of his birth, which he had not seen since a child, but has now grown to manhood. He has now come close up to the coast of Norway with his fleet, and as he beholds the mountains they seem to form an insurmountable barrier as they rise on the sea's horizon. It seems as if all his youthful hopes are about to be dashed to pieces upon these rocks.

But as Olaf's bard gazes upon the scene he suddenly sees further into the country, where towering snow-clad mountain peaks lift their heads high above everything else, and he calls the King's attention to it. It was a new vision; the King saw in it a favorable omen. These snow-white peaks seemed to him as if he was viewing a church, a temple with belfry'd tower. He saw in it the realization of his dream for his new faith and religion which he was bringing and the temples which were to rise for the first time on Norwegian soil.

Finally, Olaf enters the land. It was springtime. The murmur of the brooks, the roar from the ocean, the

(continued on p. 16)

**Norwegian Singers Association
of America, Inc.
Pacific Coast Norwegian
Singers Association
Club Membership Index**

**ILLINOIS
CHICAGO**

Bjornson Male Chorus

Rehearsals: Each Tuesday 8:00 p.m. at V.F.W. Hall; Camfield and Higgins Road, Park Ridge, IL 60068. President: John Lee, 738 Bent Ridge Lane, Elgin, IL 60120, tel. (847) 741-4210; Secretary: George Michals, 5236 Arlington Drive West, Hanover Park, IL 60103; Director: Edwin Kramer, 32600 East Lane, Grayslake, IL 60030, tel. (847) 546-2050.

Normennes Singing Society

Rehearsal each Tuesday evening at 8PM (except July and August) at the Estonian House, P.O. Box 95, Lincolnshire, IL 60069. tel: (847)537-8016. President: Thor Fjell, 1041 W. Ogden Ave. #118, Naperville, IL 60563. Tel: (630)369-4233, cell: (630) 479-4233, thorffjell@comcast.net. Recording Secretary: Frank Potempa, 1788 W. Sherwood Rd., fcpotempa@sbcglobal.net Director: Charles Kessell, 6042 W. Grace St., Chicago, IL 60634. Tel: (773)481-5941, cell (773)858-5325, perc55@juno.com.

ROCKFORD

Harmony Singing Society

Rehearsal each Tuesday 7:30 p.m. at our Club: 1104 15th Ave. Rockford, IL 61104. President: Steve Litteral Sr. 618 13th St., Rockford IL 61104, tel. (815) 399-2794. Corresponding Secretary: Dan Lindberg 214 Rome Ave. #2 Rockford, IL 61107. Tel. (815) 229-0625. Danielalindberg@CS.COM Director: (vacant).

**IOWA
SIOUX CITY**

Nordic Male Chorus

Rehearsals: Every Monday night, 7:30 p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 315 Hamilton Blvd. Sioux City, Iowa 51103; President: Gary Munson, 3303 Court St., Sioux City, IA 51104, tel. (712) 277-1428; Corresponding Secretary: Robert R. Hansen, 20 Eastview Drive, Sioux City, IA 51106 (712) 258-7445 gregors5@juno.com; Director: Charles Schuett, 5040 Stone Ave., Sioux City, IA 51106, tel. (712) 276-2328, scschuett@aol.com.

DECORAH

Luren Singing Society

Rehearsal: Every Monday night, 7:30 p.m. at Thomas Roberts High School. President: Roger Buhr, 105 Randall Dr, Decorah IA 52101, (563) 382-3088 buhr@mchsi.com. Corresponding Secretary: Donald L. Berg, 407 Leif Erikson Drive, Decorah, IA 52101-1038, tel. (563) 382-5727; Director: Dr. David Judisch, 814 Fifth Ave., Decorah, IA 52101, tel. (563) 382-9222 judiscda@luther.edu.

MINNESOTA

MINNEAPOLIS

Nordkap Male Chorus

Rehearsal: Each Monday, 7:00 p.m., at Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church, 53rd & Chicago Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN. President: Duane Olson, 9850 Lyndale Ave. S. Apt.57, Bloomington MN 55420-5295; Corresponding Secretary: Wendell Frerichs, 1776 Chatsworth St., Roseville MN 55113-6561 (651) 489-8947; Director: Carsten Slostad,

1065 Portland Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104-7011; tel. (651) 291-8639.

Norwegian Glee Club

Rehearsal: Each Thursday evening at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 4801 France Ave. So., Edina, MN. President: Herb Nelson, 4720 Larkspur Lane, Lake Elmo MN 55042-8541 (651)587-4819; Corresponding Secretary: Charles Engh, 7642 Prairie Flower Blvd., Chanhassen, MN 55317, tel. (952) 4018838; Director: Carsten Slostad, 1065 Portland Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104-7011; tel. (651) 291-8639.

SOUTH DAKOTA

SIOUX FALLS

Minnehaha Mandskor

Rehearsal: Each Monday, 7:30 p.m. at Center For Active Generations, 2300 W. 46th St., Sioux Falls, SD. President: Ray Ode, 3900 N. Six Mile Rd, Sioux Falls SD 57110. Tel: (605)582-3438; brode@alliancecom.net. Corr. Secretary: Robert Stenberg, 313 Washington Ave., Dell Rapids, S.D. 57022; (605)428-3911, abstenberg@goldenwest.net Director: Terry Walter, 2708 West Oak St., Sioux Falls, SD 57105, tel. (605) 3390607, <clefdwellers_on_oak@juno.com>.

Norse Glee Club

Rehearsal: Each Monday, 7:30 p.m. at Nordic Hall. President: Robert Amend, 46458 267th St., Hartford, SD 57033-6917. Tel. (605)361-2061; Corresponding Secretary: Gail Kristensen, 11 W. 17th St., Apt. #121, Sioux Falls, SD 57104, tel. (605)731-5281. Director: Lyle E. Kroon, 1216 Sunset Drive, Sioux Falls, SD 57105, tel. (605) 335-1624.

CANTON

Grieg Male Chorus

Rehearsals: Each Monday, 7:30 p.m. at Canton Good Samaritan Center. President: Bill Kortemeyer, 406 E. Poplar Dr., Canton, SD 57013, tel. (605) 764-9060. ringshanks@iw.net Corresponding Secretary: Jerry Holter, 28724 480th Ave., Canton, SD 57013, tel. (605) 987-2161; Director: Lane Karli, 3401 S. Grace Ave., Sioux Falls SD 57103-7219, (605) 275-5591. lkarli@sio.midco.net

WISCONSIN

MADISON

Edvard Grieg Chorus

2262 Winnebago, Madison, WI 53704
Rehearsal: Each Tuesday, 7 p.m. President: Steve Christenson, 519 N. Harrison St., Stoughton WI 53579, (608) 873-9846 steveKrisC@yahoo.com; Corresponding Secretary: Dick Johnston, 26 Chautauqua Tr., Madison WI 53719, (608) 833-6284 ; Director: Mark W. Everson, 711 Highway #106, Edgerton, WI 53534, tel. (608) 884-9398 evers1111@aol.com.

**SIOUX VALLEY SINGERS
ASSOCIATION**

OFFICERS:

President: Wayne Mitchell, 102 E 7th St. Dell Rapids SD 57022 tel. (605) 482-3657; Vice President: Curt Hepner, 321 N. Lincoln St., Canton SD 57013-1721 (605)764-2914 mycurt@sio.midco.net. Secretary: Ronald Beck, 28206 465th St., Lennox, SD 57039, tel. (605) 647-2851, beckpardoxx@speednet.com; Treasurer: David Stene, 6109 Canary Place, Sioux Falls, SD 57107-1076, tel. (605) 332-2055; Director: Lyle Kroon, 1216 Sunset Drive, Sioux Falls, SD 57105, tel. (605) 335-1624.

**PACIFIC COAST NORWEGIAN
SINGERS ASSOCIATION**

OFFICERS:

President: Phil Overlund, 11556 Shadow Ranch Rd, La Mesa, CA 91941, tel. (619) 660-1125, jpoverlund@cox.net; Vice President: Ken Lake, 5003 NE 1094 PL, Lake Forest Park, WA 98155, (206) 362-5611, kenethlake@comcast.net; Secretary: Claire Egtvedt, 5904 96th St SW, Mukilteo WA 98275 (425) 347-4944 chegetvedt@comcast.net; Treasurer: Jeff Tremblay, 18724 Soundview Dr, Stanwood WA 98292 (360) 652-0371 jtremb2@aol.com; Trustees: California: Borre Ulrichsen, 715 Cascade Ct, Walnut Creek CA 94598, (415) 205-8064, borre@ulrichsen.net; Oregon: Orv Sletten, 3087 Oakcrest Dr NW, Salem, OR 97304, tel. (503) 581-7099, orvviv44@comcast.net; Washington: Pete Petersen, 713 E 7th Ave. Ellensburg WA 98926, (509) 607-9406 o.petersen@gmail.com. Trustee at Large: Mark Agerter, 3850 Gilham Rd, Eugene, OR, 97408, (541)-685-0115, markagerter@peak.org

CALIFORNIA

OAKLAND

Normanna Glee Club

Rehearsal: Each Monday at 8:00 p.m., Bjornson Hall, 2258 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, CA 94602. President: Howard Hansen, 149 Tharp Drive, Moraga, CA 94556, tel. (510) 376-7611; Secretary: Robert Brewer, 15 Castle Park Way, Oakland, CA 94611, tel. (510) 531-9684, jugiockp47@aol.com; Director: Dick Meyer, 3440 Adell Ct., Apt. 2, Oakland, CA 94602, tel. (510) 482-4714, meyersfbc@aol.com.

SACRAMENTO

Nordik Sangkor

Rehearsal: Second Sundays, 1:30 p.m., at Advent Lutheran Church, 5901 San Juan Ave., Citrus Heights, CA. Contact person/director: Walter Braafladt. President: Walter Braafladt, 4174 Dena Way, Sacramento, CA 95821, tel. (916) 482-7919, wbraafladt@softcom.net; Secretary: Rolf Owre, 145 Baxter Ave., Sacramento, CA 95818, tel: (916) 925-8409; Director: Walter Blaaflydt, 4174 Dena Way, Sacramento, CA 95821, tel: (916) 4827919, wbraafladt@softcom.net.

SAN DIEGO

San Diego Mannskor

Rehearsal: every Monday at Calvary Lutheran Church, 424 Via De La Valle, Solana Beach, CA 92075. President: Sven I. Olsen, 2991 Jacks Creek Pl. Escondido, CA 92027, tel. (760) 735-6171, svenio@sbcglobal.net; Secretary: Jon Homerud, 3354 Bonica Woods Dr., Bnita, CA 91902 (619) 470-8745 holmerud@cox.net; Director: Joyce Olsen, 2991 Jacks Creek Place, Escondido, CA 92027, tel. (760) 735-6171, joyceolsen@mac.com.

SAN FRANCISCO

Norwegian Male Chorus

Rehearsal: Meets every Tuesday 7:00 p.m. at the Norwegian Club, 1900 Fell St., San Francisco, CA. President: Herleiv Storseter, 235 Brentwood Ave., San Francisco, CA 94103 tel: (415) 344-0204; Secretary: Mark Mathisen, 1601 Oakwood Dr., San Mateo, CA 94403 tel: (650) 574-2935, dchouse@earthlink.net; Director: Rebecca Stein, 204 Roseann, Pittsburg, CA 94565, tel. (925) 432-1120, beccab63@hotmail.com.

OREGON

EUGENE

The Norsemen

Rehearsal: Each Monday at 7:30 p.m. at Sonja Lodge #38, Sons of Norway, 710 McKinley, Eugene, OR 97402. President: Mike Bagaason, 2060 Bailey Hill Rd., Eugene, OR 97405, tel. (541) 687-2562, bagaason@rio.com; Secretary: Roger Ness, 3079 Stapp Dr. Eugene, OR 97408,

tel. (541) 505-7769, rdpjness@hotmail.com; Director: Ed Amundson, 29453 Culver Lane, tel. (541) 998-6329 amundson@peak.org

SALEM

Thorsmen

Rehearsal: Each Monday at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Cross Lutheran Church Annex, 1198 Lanning Avenue North East, Salem, OR 97303. President: Robert Johnson, 16485 Oakdale, Dallas OR 97338; Secretary: Roger Vinyard, 4085 47th Ave. NE, Salem OR 97305; Director: Peter Butler, 31869 Eastway, Lebanon, OR 97355, tel. (503) 259-2006, whitewolf@proaxis.com.

WASHINGTON

BELLINGHAM

Norwegian Male Chorus

Rehearsals every Tuesday evening, 6:00 pm at the Norway Hall, 1419 North Forest St., Bellingham WA. President: Larry Peterson. Tel. (360) 935-1110. Secretary: Jim Florence. Director: Steve Jensen, 2694 Goshen Rd., Bellingham, WA 98226, tel. (360) 966-3132, stmjensen@earthlink.net, cell phone 303-3919.

EVERETT

Norwegian Male Chorus

Normanna Hall, 2725 Oaks Avenue

Everett, Washington 98201

Rehearsals are held every Wednesday evening, 7:30 p.m. at Normanna Hall; President: Allen Feris tel. (360) 435-3144, Feris.Allen@msn.com; Secretary: Robert Bruland, tel. (425)335-1150 r.bruland@frontier.com. Director: Steve Jensen, 2694 Goshen Road, Bellingham, WA 98226, tel: (360) 966-3132, stmjensen@earthlink.net, cell: (389)393-3919

POULSBORO

Vestre Sund Mannskor

Meets every Thursday, 7:30 p.m. at Grieg Hall, Sons of Norway, 18891 Front St., Poulsbo, WA 98370. President: Stan Overby, 29311 Beach Dr., Poulsbo, WA 98370, tel: (360) 779-2460; Secretary: Robert Ellerby, 1261 Cameo Court, Poulsbo, WA 98370, tel: (360) 598.4831; Director: Kathy Haug, 21050 Fern St.399336999339999, Indianola, WA 98342. tel. (360)908-9806. Kathy@meland.com.

SEATTLE

Norwegian Male Chorus

Rehearsal: Every Monday evening 7:30 p.m. Nordic Heritage Museum, 3014 N.W. 67th Street, Seattle, WA 98117. Officers: President: Howard Slauson, 6318 189th Pl, Lynnwood WA 98036, (425)774-4635, howardslauson@comcast.net; Corresponding Secretary: A.J. Skurdal, 3246 NE 104th St. Seattle WA 98125, tel(206)525-2524, askurdal@aol.com; Director: Robert G. Johnston, 4707 NE 192 Pl., Lake Forest Park, 98155, tel. (206)362-1094, bobsings@gohuskies.com

Skagit Valley Manskor

PO Box 481, Mt. Vernon, WA 98273

Rehearsal every Monday at 7:00 PM at Abel Lodge, 21098 2nd St. Conway WA 98238,. Officers: President: Jeff Highland tel. (360)387-5285. highland@smunn.edu Secretary Skip Ingraham tel (360)387-6168. Director Steve Jensen, Bellingham WA, 98226 Cell phone 360-303-3919 stmjensen@earthlink.net.

TACOMA

Normanna Male Chorus

Rehearsal: Each Monday 7:00 p.m., Gloria DeI Lutheran Church, 3315 South 19th Street, Tacoma, Wash. President: Erick Perkins, 6001-N 40th St; Tacoma WA 98407, tel. (253)272-7286, erperk@comcastil.net Secretary: Loren Jangaard, 5917 34th St NW, Gig Harbor WA 98335, tel. (252)265-2312, jangaardl@hatmail.com; Director: Jon Malmin, 14211 Peacock Hill Ave, Gig Harbor WA 98332, (tel) (253)514-8677, jmalmin2@comcast.net

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echo from the mountains and music of the wind sighing through the forest produce an effect like distant organ tones and church bells in his imaginative ear.

Overwhelmed by these feelings, the King bows his head in reverential prayer. This prayer is contained in the solo.

In closing, the chorus intones the prayer in unison with the King, in adoration to the Most High, and prays for strength to remain true to the cause, true as the foundation, immovable as the mountains themselves.

This interpretation, probably penned by Erling Stone, may help us understand why this selection is chosen as the finale for our Grand Concert.

NAHA Norway Conference 2011

The Norway Chapter of the Norwegian-American Historical Assoc. (NAHA) will hold its eleventh seminar, entitled "Migrant Journeys: The Norwegian-American Experience in a Multicultural Context" on June 14-17, 2011, at Luther College, Decorah, IA. As its title suggests, the seminar welcomes a wide range of topics within Norwegian-American studies. Topics related to literary, linguistic, and religious studies, to history, social science, fine and folk arts, and cultural studies are appropriate. For more information, including a schedule of presentations, see the website

www.luther.edu/150/events/conference