



VOLUME 101, NO. 4

DECORAH, IA July-August 2011



*"Blessed are the musical, for theirs
shall be a never-ending song"*

The above picture was the cover of the bulletin for the funeral of Eileen Farnsworth (Eileen is pictured at right). Eileen died July 11, 2011 at the age of 102 years. In 1929 she began a 60 year association with Minnehaha Mandskor. (See also page 9.)



NORDIC MALE CHORUS**Sioux City IA**

Historic Missouri River flooding has marked the summer hiatus of the Chorus.

The Chorus' headquarters is located high above the flooded areas, but at least one chorus member, Bill Brockhaus, emptied his home basement as a precautionary move. And a younger member who recently joined the Chorus, Zach Beatty, was involved in sandbagging, thus missing attendance at the June Sioux Valley Sangerfest. The flood threat kept Bill and Glenna Brockhaus also at home.

Many people of all ages in Siouxland joined in a massive effort to move people and fill sandbags, as well as to provide food and clothing. The generosity and kindness of the human spirit were evident everywhere.

By the time the Chorus begins rehearsals again in September it is hopeful that a return to normal will have begun.

Bob Hansen, Corr. Sec.

NORMENNENES SINGING**SOCIETY****Chicago IL**

Well, a challenging summer is coming to a close with too much heat and rain for my taste! On Tuesday, Aug. 9th, we had a music committee meeting at the home of Karl Tangeros with special treats and coffee provided by wife Grete. A variety of subjects was discussed, ranging from our uniforms to concert venues. Foremost on the schedule is first rehearsal on Tuesday, Sept. 6th, and our Anniversary celebration coming on Oct. 29th.

An interesting footnote is we have two, possibly three singer prospects for

the fall season. This, of course, is a top priority and a catalyst for growth and continued success for all of us. Our goal is to perform once a month with the hope of attracting more singers.

We are all anxious to start our rehearsals with the sociability that they bring. There will be another music committee meeting on Aug. 23rd, to sort and finalize our music selections to "hit the pavement running."

I personally have been affected by the tragedy in Norway. On Aug. 1st I was notified that a daughter of my cousin Ingar Fjeld, Ida Marie Hill, was one of the last identified after the bombing in Oslo on July 22nd. I had known Ida for more than 20 years and she will be greatly missed. Ida was an attorney with the Norwegian government and was only 34 years old.

On another personal note, I will be having left knee replacement surgery on Aug. 31st. The right knee is next, but first things first. I'm personally wishing everyone success with their upcoming singing seasons.

Leve Sangen,



Thor Fjell, President

NORWEGIAN GLEE CLUB**Minneapolis MN**

As I write this, we are headed for another near 100 degree day with very high humidity. I can't remember a more strange and serious pattern of

weather in this country. Drought in areas, floods in many parts, devastating tornadoes and high wind, thunderstorms, and now heat indexes over 100.

One bright spot: the sun came out and huge crowds gathered for Norway Day at Minnehaha park on Sunday, July 10th. There was fine attendance at the 10:30 worship at *Mindekirken* with several fine solos from the beautiful voice of Mandy Inhofer. The *Barnetog* followed the service--always wonderful to see the children with their flags on parade, led by their "pied piper" with his accordion, Earl Evanstad. Earl is also this year's President of the Norwegian National League, which has sponsored this popular event for the past 82 years. Other Glee Club members on this committee include Dennis Sorheim who, with Sverre Waagen, are the super sellers of the programs that provide the funds to support this very special annual event.

Another active participant each year is Earl's wife Shirley, who seems to be wherever the action is. The popular Norwegian Consul General, Gary Gandrud, was on hand with his greeting and message. I thought the exhibitors were also as good as they have ever been, which is again a tribute to the committee.

Bent and Anna Lisa Paulsen again offered their lovely home for the site of our summer picnic Saturday, Aug. 6th. It's a wonderful day of fellowship, exchange of summer vacation stories, and feasting on the array of dishes brought by the Auxiliary members. Last year we were bombarded by acorns from their majestic oak tree in the back yard.

Bent suggests every one wear a helmet this year.

President Herb Nelson has already sketched out a schedule for the coming Fall and Spring. More details will be filled in as the months progress. Everything has to work around lutefisk dinners on Oct. 6th and Mar. 24th, as well as our special celebration events for our 100th Anniversary of the Club. This will precede the Sangerfest at Pheasant Run June 13-17, and our annual meeting and election of officers.

Several singing engagements that will include a Christmas concert and a Spring concert are also on the agenda. Looks like we will be busy. We hope everyone will return from summer vacation in robust shape, no one falling off their docks at their cabins, etc.

My grandson and his parents sometimes have a discussion as to how his hair should be cut. I saw this story that gave me a smile:

A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and asked his father when they could discuss his use of the family car. His father said he would make a deal with his son. "You bring your grades up from a C to a B, study your Bible a little and get a hair cut. Then we will talk about the car."

The son settled for the offer. After six weeks the father said, "Son, you've brought your grades up, and I've noticed you have been studying the Bible, but I'm disappointed that you haven't had your hair cut."

The boy said, "You know, dad, I've been thinking about that, and I noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, and there is even evidence

(continued on page 5)

SANGERHILSEN
("SINGERS GREETING")

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**DEADLINE FOR
 SEPT. OCT. ISSUE
 SEPT 30, 2011**

that Jesus had long hair.”

The father replied, “Did you notice also that they walked everywhere they went?”

Charles Engh, Corr. Sec.

BJORNSON MALE CHORUS

Chicago IL

Dear Brother Singers,

Our Spring concert was Friday, June 10th, at the Avalon Banquets in Elk Grove IL. The Chorus sang six songs during the first half and six songs the second half. In between, soloists had the audience enthralled with their beautiful performances. With the chorus, soloists, meal and dancing afterwards, everyone sure was in a festive mood the entire evening.

The Chorus’ last endeavor found us singing at the Danish Home picnic in Chicago Sunday, June 26th. It’s a well attended affair, especially for the kids –lots of games, even a petting zoo! The entertainment consisted of the ladies (“The Pearls”) singing several catchy tunes, with Caroline Uhlig as director, and Ed Kramer on piano.

Bjornson then put on a short program of five songs, then made a mad dash inside for some fabulous chow. We love to sing for our supper.

We’re on our summer break now, so until the 6th of September arrives we’ll have a song in our hearts, hope for a better tomorrow, and peace on earth.

Leve Sangen,



George Michals, Corr. Sec.

NORSE GLEE CLUB

Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Summer activities are underway. In July, we recognized and celebrated the 85th birthday of Roger Wold, one of our long-standing resident baritones. The date was also heralded in our local newspaper. Additionally, in August, our families will be enjoying a potluck cookout, annually hosted by Bob and Margaret Tiedemann, at their Prairie View Farm in Baltic SD, on Saturday Aug. 13.

We will be in rehearsal in August to support and participate in two events. We have been asked to sing on Tuesday evening, August 9th at the Sioux Empire Fair on the Community Theater Stage as part of this year’s Fair activities. We will be performing selections from our June 2011 Sioux Valley Singers Sangerfest. The second event, as mentioned in our last newsletter, is that we will sing at the 100th anniversary celebration of the church building of the East Nidaros Lutheran Church in Baltic, SD on August 27th.



Gail Kristensen, Corr. Secy.

EDVARD GRIEG CHORUS

Madison WI

All of us were shocked and saddened to learn of the bombing in Oslo and the shooting massacre of the Norwegian young people on the island off the coast. The thoughts and prayers of all of the members of the

Edvard Grieg Chorus are extended to the families of the victims and the Norwegian people in their time of such great sorrow.

Our chorus is now in its summer recess so there isn't much to report in regard to performance activities. I thought I might take the liberty, however, to report on one aspect of the 50th wedding anniversary trip my wife and I took to England, Scotland, and Wales. Most of us are aware of the historic relationship that has existed between England and Norway, but we learned something new while in England. Our tour took us to several cities in England including York which has a particular connection to the Scandinavian Vikings.

Norwegian and Danish Vikings began to attack England around the end of the 8th Century. In 793 the Vikings sacked the monastery on Lindisfarne, off the coast of Northumbria. This has traditionally been regarded as the start of the Viking Age in Britain that ended in 1066. After its initial capture on November 1, 866, York was under Viking control for almost a century. The city was renamed Jorvik by the Vikings and essentially became the capital city of what we now know as northern England and Scotland. Jorvik attracted the Vikings because it was already a well-established political, religious and commercial center, and still retained its defensible Roman walls.

As a result of archaeological excavations by the York Archaeological Trust from 1976 to 1981, the Viking city of Jorvik was discovered. Remains of the Viking settlement were located under

approximately 10-15 feet of oxygen-free peat that helped preserve many materials that normally rot away to dust. These conditions meant that minute details of everyday life could be recreated allowing visitors to experience life on a busy street in Jorvik on October 25, 975. The buildings and objects shown were all found in the excavations.

The Jorvik Viking Centre was originally opened in April 1984. After 16 years of additional research, a new exhibit was opened in April 2001. Further discoveries were subsequently made and a new Centre was opened in February 2010. Over 15 million visitors have toured the Centre. The underground exhibit includes a ride that travels around the inside of the displays of artifacts and staged street scenes of Nordic village life. (Reference: Jorvik Viking Centre Guidebook)



Dick Johnston, Corr. Sec.

LUREN SINGING SOCIETY Decorah IA

The Conference of NAHA-Norge, held at Luther College June 14-17, was the best attended of such meetings and was the first to be held at Luther. My presentation on "The Importance of Music for the Norwegian-American Immigrant" was shifted in the schedule, but I did get a full hour. Featured was a quartet of current Luren members: Dave Carlson, Dennis Barnaal, Dave Judisch and Merlin Finley singing two of the

songs on the Luren Songbook list. The only complaint was, "They should have sung more." (A separate article on my presentation is in this issue.)

Our main fund-raising activity, the Winneshiek County Fair food stand, which Luren has had since the mid-1940s, was a strong success again this year, with lots of workers serving lots of tasty food. We'll get the financial report when we return to rehearsals in early September.

Nordic Fest went well too. Thursday evening's opening events were more somber due to the bombing in Oslo and shootings at the Utøye youth camp the previous week. The crowds seemed to "take a liking to us Vikings" at our various appearances. It always helps to have an appreciative audience.

Luren had a window display at a shoe store on Torstein Skeivla and Skjervald Skrukka, the Birkebeiner skiers who smuggled the 18-month old son of Norwegian royalty to safety in 1206. The boy became King Haakon Haakonson IV in 1217. At the center of the display as the well-known painting of the event by Knud Bergslien.

Then for the parade on Saturday, we had a more than full wagon load of singers on a very nice, slightly warm, day with a welcome breeze.

As a follow-up to our Luren-Norsemen concert in May, for which the offering went to "Feed My Starving Children," we will be helping assemble packets of food on Saturday, Aug. 20th, for this cause.

Also, prior to our official beginning of the new singing season on Monday, Sept. 12th, we'll join Jim and Arlene Lage in celebrating their 50th Wedding

Anniversary at Nob Hill, Sunday, Aug. 21st.

We know we will lose at least two of our members this fall. Pastor Matt Perkins will move with his wife, Amy, also a pastor, to Oklahoma, where she has accepted a Call. And Ryan Fordice, one of our newest and youngest members, will be leaving for Turkey on a Fulbright Foreign Scholarship. He will serve as an English language instructor at Gaziantep University. We wish him well and congratulate him, but will miss his fine baritone voice.

As if the Eaglecam wasn't enough excitement and publicity for Decorah this year we had the privilege of hosting a sitting US President Monday, Aug. 15th, and will have Norwegian royalty here on Oct. 13th. We are tentatively scheduled to do some singing for them at Vesterheim that afternoon.

In conjunction with the 150th Anniversary of Luther College this year, a group of ca. 40 members of the Koren clan (relatives of Pastor U. V. Koren) will spend about a week here. We may be doing some singing for them at Washington Prairie Lutheran Church on Wednesday, Oct. 19th.

We have a good list of prospects to invite for membership. I'll report the results in future issues.



Don Berg, Corr. Sec.

 NORWEGIAN SINGERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

GRAND CONCERT - 7:00 PM, June 16, 2012

Pre-Concert TBA

Ja, vi elsker dette landet	(a capella, in parts)	Rikard Nordraak
Star Spangled Banner	(a capella, in parts)	Francis Scott Key

I

Cry Out and Shout		Knut Nystedt
Holy Lord of All		Isalaw/Williams
Vi vil os et Land		Christian Sinding
Who Are the Brave	w/brass, timpani, percussion	Joseph M. Martin
	David Judisch, Conductor	

II
 Various Selections
 Kenneth Michaels, Tenor
III

Vi er sangere		Finn Skottner/Reidar Rinnar
Ave Maria	trio solos – Nordic Voices Chorus	Franz Biebl
Kaare Sang from “Sigurd Slembe”	Mitchell, Svanoe – solos	Rickard Nordraak
Fader I himlen	(Swedish)	Bengt Eriksson
Testament of Freedom	(excerpts) w/orchestra	Randall Thompson
	Ed Kramer, Conductor	

IV
 Various Selections
 DuPage Symphony Orchestra – Barbara Schubert, Conductor
V

O Come, Let Us Sing	w/Brass & Percussion	Cindy Berry
Gonna Build a Mountain	K. Michaels, solo	Bricusse/Newley/arr. N. Leyden
I’m Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing!		Spiritual/arr. H. Helvey
Landkjending	w/Orchestra	Julian Ronning, Solo
		Edvard Grieg
	David Judisch, Conductor	

 June 14, 2012 Parade of Choruses: Veterans Chorus Songs

Gud Signe Norigs Land	Oscar Borg
With a Voice of Singing	Martin Shaw
	Bernhard Gluth, Conductor

Obituary

Marlys Ruud, widow of Nordkap member Paul Ruud, died July 14, 2011 at Ham Lake MN. Surviving are three sons: Paul S (Cheryl), Brian (Julie) and Mark (Gayle); six grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren. She was born March 28, 1931. Funeral services were at Glen Cary Lutheran Church, Ham Lake MN.

MINNEHAHA MANDSKOR**Sioux Falls SD**

The 47th Biennial Sioux Valley Sangerfest was hosted by the Minnehaha Mandskor on June 11, 2011. Brandon Lutheran Church provided the perfect setting for rehearsals, luncheons, memorial service, grand concert and afterglow. Awards were presented for those in attendance of 5, 10 and 15 Sangerfests. Robert Stenberg of the Mandskor and Julian Holter of the Grieg Singers were honored to have attended 27 and 33 Sangerfests, respectively.



Bob Stenberg- 27 Sangerfests; Julian Holter- 33 Sangerfests.

The Mandskor was invited to sing at the Nordland Heritage Foundation brunch at Augustana College on June 19. After one more rehearsal to regroup, the chorus is now recessed

for the summer. Wayne and Doris Mitchell have invited us to have our summer picnic at their home, August 27. Rehearsals will resume in September. Plans are underway for a trip to Minneapolis-St Paul in October.



-15 Sangerfests. L. to R. Dr. Wayne Mitchell, Ray Ode, and Rev. Nate Hanson-5 Sangerfests ; Roger Iverson and Richard Wightman-15 Sangerfests; Robert Osborn and Noel Egan-5 Sangerfests; Dr. Ronald Beck-10 Sangerfests; Jerry Holter

The Minnehaha Mandskor was honored to sing at the funeral of long time accompanist Eileen Farnsworth on Friday, July 14.

Eileen remained a friend of the chorus long after her tenure as accompanist was ended. She was very pleased when last summer she received the gold medal for her many years of Sangerfest participation. She had just recently celebrated her 102nd birthday.

She was blessed with a sound mind, a keen wit and an extraordinary gift for playing the piano. We have been blessed to know her. May she rest in peace.

Submitted by Terry Walters

Mandskor Member Spotlight

Jake and Phyllis Van Den Hul became part of the Mandskor family a couple of years ago, being recruited by first tenor Kirk Preheim. Natives of Rock Rapids, IA, they moved to Sioux Falls from Sioux Center, IA, in 2000. Jake sells heavy trucks to pay the bills and Phyllis works part time at a fabric/textile store to support her hobbies of quilting and sewing. Jake is also a chaplain at Transport For Christ, a truck stop chapel.

They share a love of music and sing with a cousin in Relative Harmony. Phyllis arranges most of their music. The Van Den Hul family had a gospel singing group in the 70's and made a well distributed album in the early 80's. Both have sung in various gospel groups since then.

After a bout with ovarian cancer, Phyllis is in full remission and

enjoying life to its fullest. Jake and Phyllis love motorcycles and drag racing and attend the national drag racing event in Brainard, MN, every year. Married 45 years, they have three children, 11 grandchildren and two great grandsons. Both are Dutch, attend a Swedish Church and show genuine allegiance to the Mandskor. They are indeed cosmopolitan.



Phyllis and Jake Van Den Hul

Minutes of the 47th Biennial Sioux Valley Sangerfest

The business meeting of the 47th Biennial meeting of the Sioux Valley Singers Association was held on June 11th, 2011 at Brandon Lutheran Church in Brandon, South Dakota with President Wayne Mitchell presiding. The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m. and the President welcomed the delegates to the meeting.

Roll call of officers	President	Wayne Mitchell
	Vice President	Curt Hepner
	Secretary	Ronald Beck
	Treasurer	David Stene
	Marshal	Robert Tidemann not present
	Director in Chief	Lyle Kroon
	Assistant Director	Terry Walter

Substitute marshal Kirk Preheim reported that credentials were received for the following delegates: Grieg Male Chorus (1)Bill Kortermeyer and (2) Gerrit Van Den Top; Minnehaha Mandskor (1) Don Cooper and (2)Kirk Preheim; Nordic Male Chorus (1)Ed Stone and (2)Gary Munson; Norse Glee Club (1)K. Roger Johnson (2)Gail Kristensen, (3)Robert Osborn.

Minutes of the June 13th, 2009 meeting were read by the secretary. Motion to approve, second, passed.

The treasurer's report showing a beginning balance of \$693.96, income of \$540.22, expenses of \$228.00 and an ending balance of \$1006.18 was presented by treasurer David

Stene. Report was audited by George Regan on June 7th and found to be correct. Motion moved, seconded, passed to accept report.

The secretary’s report was given, showing performances by the Sioux Valley Singers at the following events:

- 46th Biennial SVSA Sangerfest at Lynwood Wesleyan Church in Sioux Falls, S.D. on June 13th, 2009.
- Nordland Fest at Augustana College Elmen Center in Sioux Falls, S.D. on June 20th, 2009.
- Board meeting on May 24th, 2010 at Grieg Chorus rehearsal in Canton, S.D.
- Nordland Fest/Syttende Mai at First Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, S.D. on May 17th, 2010.
- 58th Biennial NSAA Sangerfest in Madison, Wisconsin on June 24-27, 2010.

Election of new members

President Mitchell read the names of first time attendees to a Sioux Valley Sangerfest.

Grieg Male Chorus	Brandon Bergren Christian Petrich Alan Petrich Mark Petrich
Minnehaha Mandskor	Jake Van Den Hul Dennis Wollman
Nordic Male Chorus	Zachary Beatty
Norse Glee Club	Elmer Haugland, Jr. Carl Thompson Bryan Engel

Motion made, seconded, passed unanimously that these singers be accepted as members of the Sioux Valley Singers Association.

Old business: Discussion on item #4 in the by laws. Motion by Curt Hepner to change the wording to read, after the word “debts”, “except payments for services listed on the Sioux Valley Singers Salary Schedule”. Motion seconded and carried.

Discussion on whether a 10% payment from the sangerfest host chorus to the SVSA should be listed as a part of the by laws. Motion made and seconded that it be included in the by laws. Motion defeated. Treasurer will remind each chorus of this policy. Secretary Ron Beck reported that a completed pictorial directory of members and spouses is available for viewing at the sangerfest. Terry Walter was applauded for all the work she did to bring it to completion. The completed directory file was sent by email to each chorus president for them to send on to their members.

New Business

Motion made and seconded that a memorial service honoring the following deceased members be included in the 2011 Sangerfest Concert Program:

Norse Glee Club	Dennis Severson Palmer Madland Eldon Johnson J. Marvin Buckneberg Robert E. Johnson Norin Blomberg Elwood Carlson
Minnehaha Mandskor	Eugene Person
Grieg Male Chorus	Jasper Myers

Nordic Male Chorus

Art Larson

Lloyd Aasen
Rev. Harold Norheim
Wilbur Dixon

Motion carried.

Awards

Motion made and seconded that the following Sioux Valley Singers Association medals be presented and members recognized:

5 Sangerfests	Grieg Male Chorus	Rev. Nate Hanson
	Minnehaha Mandskor	Dr. Wayne Mitchell
		Ray Ode
	Norse Glee Club	Noel Egan
		Rev. Robert Osborn
10 Sangerfests	Minnehaha Mandskor	Dr. Ronald Beck
15 Sangerfests	Grieg Male Chorus	Jerry Holter
		Roger Iverson

Motion carried.

Motion made and seconded that the SVSA pay the set up fee of \$40 for the group picture of the chorus. Motion carried. Motion made and seconded to pay \$45 for a ¼ page Christmas ad in the Sangerhilsen and \$15 dollars for listing in the index. Motion carried.

Selection of next convention city

An invitation from the Grieg Male Chorus was presented inviting the SVSA to hold the 2013 SVSA Sangerfest in or near Canton, S.D. at a site to be determined later.

Motion made and seconded to accept the invitation by the Grieg Male Chorus to host the 48th Biennial Sangerfest in Canton, South Dakota in 2013. Motion carried.

Election of officers

Curt Hepner nominated for president
Ed Stone nominated for vice president
Ron Beck nominated for secretary
David Stene nominated for treasurer
Robert Bergren nominated for marshal
Lyle Kroon nominated for director in chief
Lane Karli nominated for assistant director

Motion made and seconded to cast unanimous ballot for the following candidates:

President Curt Hepner
Vice President Ed Stone
Secretary Ronald Beck
Treasurer David Stene
Marshal Robert Bergren
Director in Chief Lyle Kroon
Assistant Director Lane Karli

Motion carried.

President Wayne Mitchell thanked the delegates and directors for their participation in the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Ronald D. Beck, Secretary

LUREN'S FIRST DIRECTOR

In my article in the previous issue of *Sanger-Hilsen* about the Luren Songbook, I noted that Emil Berg was the first director of Luren after it was reorganized as a Chorus. I suggested that he may have been involved in the compilation of the songbook. I still have no proof of this suggestion, but I did do more research on him. (Actually, I asked one of my sisters who has taught in the LaCrosse WI area to do the research. At our recent family reunion, she passed along several items from several sources in LaCrosse that form the basis for this article.)

Emil Berg was born at Trondheim, Norway, Dec. 12, 1843. His father was an officer in the artillery service; his mother was of Swedish ancestry, though born in Norway. Emil received his education in the public schools of Trondheim and in early life showed a strong predilection for music. However, he learned the furrier's trade.

At age 23 he emigrated, locating in Chicago, where he followed his trade for one season, for which there was not much demand. Then he engaged in upholstery, in the meantime devoting his attention to music. His fine tenor voice and his love for the old Norse songs made him favorably known in the musical circles of Chicago, and in the fall of 1866 he organized a singing society named Nora, the first Norwegian singing society organized in that city. During the fall of 1868 Nora merged into Freja, with Berg as leader of both societies.

In the spring of 1869 he came to LaCrosse. On June 1, 1869 he was elected leader of Normanna and, with the exception of four years spent in

Decorah, remained its leader until 1880, when the group divided, half going into the Norden Society, where he also became its leader. For several years he was also leader of the Sextten Harmonien, once led the Gauken quartet, and for two years was leader of the LaCrosse Valley Singing Society at West Salem WI.

In summer 1889 the Norske Sangerkor was organized with Berg as leader; in 1890 this group joined the Normanna Sangerkor, and he was its leader. Mr. Berg is undoubtedly the oldest Scandinavian leader of song in the Northwest, if not in America.

In early 1870 Normanna had an active membership of thirty or more. On May 17, 1872 Normanna assisted Ole Bull in his concert at Madison, given for the purpose of a Scandinavian library at the State University. In 1890 Normanna had 32 active and 55 honorary members.

Berg was known as the "silver-voiced tenor" and well deserved the name, for there was no finer voice in the Northwest; it was wonderfully pure and sweet to the last.

Berg worked in the post office both in LaCrosse and Decorah. He worked in B. Anundsen's Print Shop, soon learning to use the composing stick, i.e. to set type. He set the first type for the young newspaper *Decorah Posten*, including the entire first issue.

Berg died of brain fever in LaCrosse on June 27, 1894, after about a month of illness. He was married to Ella Rauber in LaCrosse. They had three children, a son Ebbe and daughters Ragna and Nora.

The details of this history support strongly the suggestion that he was a prominent person in developing the Luren Songbook.

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.

Normenneses 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

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 evers11111@aol.com.

SIoux VALLEY SINGERS ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS:

President:: Curt Hepner, 321 N. Lincoln St., Canton SD 57013-1721 (605)764-2914 mycurt@sio.midco.net. Vice President: Ed Stone, 2009 3rd Ave, So. Sioux City NY 68776 (402)494-2956 jeston7@longlines.com. Secretary: Ronald Beck, 28206 465th St., Lennox, SD 57039, tel. (605) 647-2851, heckpardoxr@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, kennethlake@comcast.net; Secretary: Claire Egtvedt, 5904 96th St SW, Mukilteo WA 98275 (425) 347-4944 chegtvedt@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, jugjockp47@aol.com; Director: Dick Meyer, 3440 Adell Ct., Apt. 2, Oakland, CA 94602, tel. (510) 482-4714, meversfbc@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 Blaafadt, 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, rdpiness@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 Lannsing 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. 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@comcast.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



Photo by Edward "Mike" Wick, member of SON Lakeville Lodge 1-602

Luren Singers presents the Stephen Foster folk song *O Susanna* at the Court House Square in Decorah for a 2011 Nordic Fest audience. Ed Kramer of Bjornson Male Chorus provides two more hands at the piano keyboard to assist Luren pianist Matt Umphreys.

SangerHilsen invites choruses to send pictures of their concerts or activities for inclusion. These can be e-mailed to barnaade@luther.edu or mailed to Don Berg, 407 Leif Erikson Drive, Decorah IA 52101