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DECORAH, IA

July-August 2009



First Sangerfest of the Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers Association
See below article for further details. (Photo courtesy of Ed Amundson Collection)

History of the Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers Association.

The Pacific Kystens Norske Sangerforbund (Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers Association) was first organized in Seattle, August 26, 1902 at a concert and banquet given by Nordmendenes Sangforening of Seattle. An invitation had been extended earlier to the five Norwegian a capella male choruses on the coast to send representatives for the purpose of organizing an association. Their goal was thereby to transplant

the idea of annual sangerfests from Norway to the west coast.

Representatives were present from choruses in Portland (headed by Fredrik A. Tomte who first proposed the plan), Tacoma, Seattle, Ballard and Everett. John Norman of Everett was elected president; A. J. Thuland, Seattle, secretary (he later resigned and Julius Sunde, Seattle, was named to fill the vacancy); Dr. A. O. Loe, Seattle, treasurer; and Carlo A. Sperati, Tacoma, musical director. The first Sangerfest was held in Everett, August 1-3, 1903.

(continued on page 13)

MINNEHAHA MANDSKOR**Sioux Falls SD**

Thank you to the Norse Glee Club for a very fine Sioux Valley Sangerfest. Our joint rehearsals prepared us for a very fine concert.

On June 14 the Mandskor sang concerts at Oak View Terrace Nursing Home and the Salem Mennonite Home in Freeman SD. Some of our members' parents are residents in these homes. They were a very appreciative audience.

After our concerts we toured the Freeman Historical Museum. They have a large, wonderful display. You all would enjoy visiting this fine museum.

On the following Saturday, June 20, the Sioux Valley Singers sang a few numbers at the evening banquet of the Nordlandfest.

We look forward to our summer picnic on Aug. 22 in the Brandon park.

We checked the corn; it's all tasseled. Looking forward to a tremendous crop!! We'll tell you more in the fall.

Respectfully,

Bob Stenberg, Corr. Sec.

NORWEGIAN GLEE CLUB**Minneapolis MN**

Our fast-moving, cool and dry summer (at least as I write this), will soon be over and we will be back in regular practice. Already we have two concerts on the schedule for September but before talking of future dates, we want to reflect on our very successful Spring tour that took us to Lanesboro and Hanska MN, and then concerts in Brookings, Lake Preston and Watertown SD. Seven concerts to wonderful audiences. Kudos to our President and Impresario, Herb

Nelson, for making all the arrangements. Everything developed as planned and on schedule.

The running travelogue provided by Herb and our director, Carsten, as we passed through areas where they spent (or misspent) their youth, added to the enjoyment. While in Watertown on our last day we had the wonderful experience of spending considerable time at the Redlin Art Museum. The beauty of this facility and the displays blew my mind. It is worth a trip to Watertown by everyone, to see this museum. The quantity of quality art that this man produced is unbelievable.

The Glee Club performed as usual on Norway Day at Minnehaha Park. A good turnout both by our singers and attendees for this annual event.

The next gathering of the Glee Club will be our summer picnic, hosted at the home of Mary and Arnulf Skomsoyvag. After that our lake dwellers will soon be leaving their cabins, and we will be in full force to begin practices. Oh yes, Oct. 10 is our Fall lutefisk dinners with all the preparations and determination that they entail.

Continuing our recent *Sanger-Hilsen* offerings, we again want to highlight another of our Diamond singers, this time Kristen Rusten.

Kristen was born July 7, 1935 in Tynset, Nord Osterdal, Norway, to Sigurd and Henrikka Rusten. He grew up on the Hansemoen farm together with three brothers and four sisters. Norway being a sea-faring nation, it was common for young men to spend time at sea on Norwegian ship. Kris took a course of seamanship on the square-rigged training ship Christian Radich.



Kristen Rusten

After two months of training he hired on as a sailing instructor for a cruise to South America, on which half the crew were from the Navy. Unfortunately, that cruise was cancelled. While the ship was anchored in Oslo, the US training ship Eagle arrived in the harbor and the crew of that ship was invited over to the Christian Radich for a tour.

It was the Air Force that needed more mechanics and weaponry people, and Kris spend two years at the Air Force mechanic school in Kjevik, Norway, plus some special training at Erding Air Force base in Germany, and then served three years as an aircraft mechanic before emigrating to the U.S.

He ended up in Minneapolis, where he worked in the Northwest Airlines engine shop at Holman Field. After that he worked in the computer field, which was picking up speed at the time.

In the Glee Club Kris has served as Marshal, Financial Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Vice-President and President, and is presently Chairman of the Music Committee. While living in California for five years, he sang with the Normanna Male Chorus in Oakland and attended Sangerfests in Tacoma and Seattle.

For several yars Kris handled the mailings and tickets for our lutefisk dinners, no small task, and one he has now passed on to Earl Evanstad. Kris is in his 48th year with the Glee Club. He with several other long-time members have been so vital to the continuation of the existence and the traditions of this ninety-seven year old organization.

For a smile: Walking into the bar, Mike said to Fred the bartender, "Pour me a stiff one. I just had another fight with the little woman." "Oh, yeah?" said Fred, "and how did this one end?"

"When it was over," Mike replied, "she came to me on her hands and knees." "Really," said Fred. "Now that's a switch! What did she say?" She said, "Come out from under the bed, you little chicken."

Charles Engh, Corr. Sec.

NORSE GLEE CLUB Sioux Falls SD

I see, and I am sure you have noticed, that in the previous issue of *Sanger-Hilsen* there was no mention of Norse Glee News. I sent the article in ahead of the deadline, but somewhere along the line it disappeared. It is no earth-shaking event, so I will go on to this issues report.. (Editor's note: Yes, we did have the report, which I typed.

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("SINGERS GREETING")

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**DEADLINE FOR SEPT.-
 OCT. ISSUE
 SEPTEMBER 27, 2009**

But in our moving items around, it got lost in the computer somewhere. My sincere apology for its omission.)

In June the Sioux Valley Singers held their Sangerfest at the Linwood Wesleyan church in Sioux Falls. There were 73 singers present for the gathering, and around 175-200 in the audience.

Steve Espeland, Art Olson and George Regan received medals for attending their 10th Sangerfest; Lyle Kroon for his 15th, and Howard Paulson for his 20th. Maynard Lintvedt celebrated his 95th birthday, and it was his 27th Sangerfest. Bob Stenberg observed his 26th Sangerfest. It was Julian Holter's 35th, and he sang the solo for "Den Store Hvide Flok."

New first-time singers from our chorus were Rodney Hoff, Gail Kristensen and David Lien. Our many thanks to Linwood Wesleyan for hosting us. In 2011 the Mandskor will be in charge of the Sangerfest.

An event coming up is the Sioux Valley Fair, which means manning the food booth. Also, help is needed to make meatballs again. I do not know which is easier to make, Swedish or Norwegian ones. Maybe a committee could be formed to come up with a recommendation. With the summer over half gone, we will soon be back for rehearsals. In the meantime, Press On!

K. Roger Johnson, Corr. Sec.

BJORNSON MALE CHORUS Chicago IL

Dear Singer Brothers,

The summer wind keeps blowin' in
From across the sea. Da-da-da. It
lingers there and stirs the air and
walks with me, Da-da-da. So while

the summer doldrums are making me kind of lazy, there's always some tune jumping in and out of my thoughts all day long. Could be that coming back on the line this fall will be different because there is a Sangerfest to prepare for next summer. Whether it's your first or your 50th, attending a Sangerfest is an experience like none other.

This past June 12th we held our annual Spring Concert at the Avalon Banquets again. Our director Ed Kramer chose to feature a program dedicated to the music of Stephen Foster, a well-known song writer from long ago. I don't know how many songs he had published, but there are many songs he wrote during his heyday that have become "Golden" and will never die.

On June 28th, Bjornson attended the Danish Retirement Home picnic in Edison park. The Dania Ladies Chorus, directed by our own Earl Bichtel, sang a fine medley of Norwegian ditties to a most appreciative audience. The happiest "fan" in the audience was Earl himself, as he is recuperating from a recent illness.

Bjornson came on next, and we raced through about six songs. The wind was blowing so hard that we had trouble keeping the pages of our music from flipping crazily. Even our director, playing piano with assistant Shirley Andersen trying to keep Ed's music from becoming air-borne, had them both laughing. We did manage to fake out the audience, even though we sang pretty much in the cracks.

As fate would have it, we did seem to ravage the food and drinks as any true Viking would!

Leve Sangen,

George Michals, Corr. Sec.

NORDIC MALE CHORUS

Sioux City IA

With the Nordic Male Chorus in summer hiatus, it provides the opportunity to add a historical footnote to the 118-year history of our singing group.

From the files of the Norwegian American Historical Association (NAHA), an article by Odd-Stein Granhus relates the story of Emil Lauritz Ludvigson Mengshoel, a famed political journalist of his era.

In his treatise Granhus writes that Mengshoel was a very early "Nordic Chorus" member of the parent organization, Normendenes Sangforening, organized in 1891. Invited by his half-sister, Mengshoel came to America from Norway in 1891 and, after a few months employment in Alabama, arrived in Sioux City the Spring of 1892.

He soon participated in the cultural life of Sioux City as a very active member of the male chorus. He claimed he "had a passable baritone voice." Mengshoel wrote articles for the Sioux City Norwegian newspaper *Tidende* (Tidings) and in 1894 became a member of the newspaper staff. He developed friendly relations with the editor, John Store (Story), who was also "song instructor" for the Chorus.

Mengshoel was elected to the Chorus' "Accounts Committee" and wrote a song, "*Sangerfest Kantate*" (Song Festival Cantata), which the choruses sang at the National Sangerfest that the Sioux City chorus hosted on June 30, 1894.

The newsman moved to Minneapolis in 1896, where he published two radical Socialist newspapers *Gaa paa/Folkets Rost*

(Onward/Voice of the People) from 1903 to 1925.

Norwegian-Americans were renowned for the great number of newspapers they published in America with a total of more than 400 titles.

Before his death in 1945 the well-known – in his time – dissident editor wrote two novels, many stories, dramatic sketches and about 40 poems.

Why do Norwegian dogs have flat noses? From chasing parked cars!

Bob Hanson, Corr.Sec.

LUREN SINGING SOCIETY

Decorah IA

With the months of June and July behind us, we can finally relax in preparation for another singing season. At Mt. Hope Presbyterian church, rural New Albin IA, we sang for an appreciative audience, including a nice bunch of evening birds which seemed to sing along with us. "*I Gud's Fri Natur*" seemed especially appropriate. Delicious refreshments followed

For the county fair food stand, which Luren has had since the mid 1940s, weather conditions were very good, as were the financial results, very close to previous years. It is very good p.r. and opportunity to recruit prospective members.

Two weeks later came our Nordic Fest. Some of us were busy the week prior in setting up a display window in one of the museum's buildings, based on our 2001 tour of North Norway. We received the "people's choice" award for our efforts. Thanks to Roger Buhr, Don and Barb Berg, Gail Judisch and Carol Hasvold for a successful collaboration.

We will resume rehearsals on Monday, Sept. 14, due to a special event on Sept. 27, when the Stavern Mannskor from Norway will sing in Decorah. They will do a couple numbers for the 8:30 a.m. worship at Decorah Lutheran church, and a full concert at 7 p.m. in which Luren will take a small part. A dinner will follow in the church basement, which will be open to Luren members. at a cost of \$7.00.

The financial crunch has hit Vesterheim Museum too, so there will be no elderhostel this fall.

On the last weekend of October we will take a tour of southeast Iowa, beginning in Davenport on Friday evening, then on to Bishop Hill in Illinois for Saturday, and concluding with a Sunday afternoon concert in Keokuk, IA. The fall colors should be in their prime.

I learned recently of the death of a former member. Rev. A. Duane Manson died May 31, 2009 in Dubuque IA. He was born Dec. 8, 1932 at Oelwein IA, graduated from Wartburg College in 1954 and Wartburg Seminary in 1958. He was ordained on call to Christ Lutheran, Alford IA, and served there from 1958-64. Then he moved to Ossian IA where he served from 1964-79, when he went to Dubuque to serve as the chaplain at Luther Manor.

Duane married Evelyn Reisner in 1958. She died Nov. 1, 2007.

Rev. Manson sang first tenor in Luren during his years of service at the Ossian congregations.

We anticipate new faces in our ranks come fall, joining many loyal singers returning.

Don Berg, Corr. Sec.

GRIEG MALE CHORUS

Canton SD

It was the 8th of June; the Grieg Male Chorus was assembled for regular rehearsal with only five more days to “polish” the selections for the Sioux Valley Singers Association Sangerfest, when director Lane Karli raised his arms announcing this was no regular rehearsal, but a celebration as he led the group in “*For Ham Hurra!*,” honoring Maynard Lintvedt on his 95th birthday.

Maynard had been diligent in rehearsing his baritone notes and had not even noticed when his wife Mary Alice and two other Auxiliary members walked into the room for the celebration. The Grieg officers wanted to surprise him with a birthday celebration from his Grieg family.

The members of the Grieg Chorus participated in the 46th Biennial Sioux Valley Singers Association Sangerfest on Saturday, June 13, hosted by the Norse Glee Club of Sioux Falls. A festive event had been prepared for all attending, concluding with a memorial service and grand concert, beginning at 4:30 p.m. Thank you to the Norse Glee Club and Ladies Auxiliary for another great Sangerfest.

I became involved with the Grieg Chorus following my senior high school year, and attended my first Sioux Valley Sangerfest in 1971. It made an impact on me that first time and every Sangerfest since, including the national Sangerfests, that each event begins with a memorial service. I find myself getting a bit ‘choked up,’ letting the whole meaning of this service fill my thoughts, honoring the memory of all the member singers



95th Birthday Party-- Maynard Lindtvedt and Grieg President Gerrit Van Den Top

who have gone before us, who through their dedication and hard work have brought us to this place. Thank you to each Sangerfest host for continuing this most appropriate tradition.

Three of our Grieg Male Chorus members were recognized for their years of involvement. Gordon Grimsrud received his award for his fifth Sioux Valley Sangerfest. Also recognized were Maynard Lintvedt, participating in his 27th Sioux Valley Sangerfest, having never missed since 1957, and Julian Holter, participating in his 35th Sioux Valley Sangerfest, having never missed since 1939.

A special note of interest is, when Julian attended his first Sioux Valley Sangerfest in Hills MN in 1939, he was accompanied by a young lady named Verna. Thus, this year's



Julian and Verna Holten

Sangerfest was also the 35th attended by his wife.

Since the SVSA Sangerfest, the Grieg Male Chorus has been on a summer break. The annual Grieg Family Picnic is set for August 9th.

Sincere greetings to all our brother singers and their families, wishing them a great summer.

Jerry Holter, Corr. Sec.

NORMENNENES SINGING SOCIETY
Chicago IL

(Excerpted from the president's message for July)

I hope everyone is enjoying our summertime weather that took so long to get here.

Our Spring concert on April 25th proved to be a big success. Thanks to our friends at the Waukegan Swedish Glee Club for their enthusiastic participation and to Hazel and Clarence Peterson, Janet and Bob Wold, Sharon Smith and Monna Blue

for their extra efforts to make the night a success.

The chorus is now on summer break, resuming rehearsals Aug. 18th.

I was at the NSAA Board meeting in Madison Friday, June 26th, along with Ed Kramer of Bjornson. We toured the hotel and concert venues; they are absolutely fantastic. Be there or be square!

Several chorus spouses have had injuries of various kinds and are healing. Pete Henriksen and Dave Peterson are recuperating from their surgeries.

The "Last Fling Summer Party" is set for Sunday, Aug. 30th at Cress Creek Condo Clubhouse in Naperville beginning at 2 p.m.

Thor Fjell, President

NSAA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The Executive Board of the Norwegian Singers Association of America held a meeting at the Concourse Hotel, Madison WI on Friday, June 26, 2009. Present were President Jon Lewis, Treasurer Francis Peterson, Corresponding Secretary Donald Berg, Vice-President at Large Thor Fjell, Marshal Gary Hendrickson, Director-in Chief David Judisch, and Assistant Director Ed Kramer. Also present were MN Vice-President Kristen Rusten, WI Vice President Charles Morkri, Herb Nelson (Pres., Norwegian Glee Club of Minneapolis), and Jim Pettersen and Steve Christianson of the Edvard Grieg Chorus, which hosted the meeting.

A brief tour of the hotel's facilities was given prior to the meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Lewis at 11:15 a.m.

Treasurer Peterson gave a report, including the article he authored for the May-June issue of *Sanger-Hilsen* about the Sangerfest at Fargo in 2008. He then distributed an interim report of NSAA and *Sanger-Hilsen* finances, and recommended that we keep the status quo on subscription rates and Christmas greetings.

Lewis then gave a Sangerfest 2010 update. He began with his goals based on the 2008 Sangerfest, that there be better acoustics and seating for the singers. He gave a verbal description of Madison's facilities, which we later toured: Overture Center, Overture Hall, Capital Theater and Promenade Hall.

Lewis spoke further about costs and the goal of keeping registration fees down by seeking other funding, such as gifts and grants. Wisconsin Public Television may video the concert(s) and a DVD will be available. The host chorus is budgeting for audiences of 1000, but anticipate selling more tickets. Several major items are already contracted. There will be no extra costs for meeting rooms; parking of \$7/day is included in the \$134/day hotel rate.

Berg described his working arrangement on *Sanger-Hilsen* with Dennis Barnaal, who serves as technical assistant and/or co-editor. MSC (Morkri/Kramer) to make this matter an agenda item for the 2010 NSAA business meeting.

Lewis noted various parts of the NSAA Constitution need updating and/or revision. Berg agreed to reprint the Constitution in its current form and invite comments and proposed changes which would then be printed prior to the 2010 Sangerfest.

The next agenda item was the 501(c)(3) status of NSAA and the various member choruses. Bjornson, Normennenes, Luren, Norwegian Glee Club of Minneapolis, Nordkap, and Edvard Grieg Chorus are known to have such IRS status. The Board recommends that other choruses investigate gaining such status.

The question was raised whether procedures for receiving gifts, grants, bequests, etc. should be incorporated into the revised Constitution. It was noted that any organization can come to the NSAA to expedite receiving of funds with the proper documentation. Records need to be kept of how such funds are spent. A form used by the Edvard Grieg Chorus could easily be adapted for this purpose.

NSAA needs to decide whether to serve as fiscal receiver for other groups/choruses and, if so, to make provision for verification. Such can be as basic as a simple letter notifying the receiver group of the IRS requirements and having said group later send NSAA such a letter of verification, indicating how the funds were used.

Following a meal provided by the Edvard Grieg Chorus, we were treated to a tour of the various venues to be used for Sangerfest in 2010.

Respectfully submitted,
Donald Berg, Sec. pro tem.

**EDVARD GRIEG
Madison, WI**

Following our June performances at Little Norway and Wisconsin Dells, the Chorus has gone into its summer recess. On July 18, however, a group of us sang the National Anthem for the Madison Mallards and Eau Claire Express amateur league baseball game

in front of a crowd of 7,200. It was a pleasant but cool evening, and the Mallards won the game 7- 4.

Later this summer we are scheduled to sing at the Dean House in Monona, a suburb of Madison. Looking ahead to the fall, it appears that several performance opportunities are already on the schedule. We are also looking forward to beginning our rehearsal of the songs that will be on the Sangerfest 2010 program.

The official hotel for Sangerfest 2010 will be the Madison Concourse Hotel and Governor’s Club. The Concourse Hotel, the largest convention hotel in Madison, is located on West Dayton Street, one block from the Overture Center where the choruses will be performing. Also within walking distance are Wisconsin’s dramatic State Capitol, Monona Terrace Convention Center, State Street, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The Concourse hotel offers 356 guest rooms and 27,000 square feet of recently renovated meeting space as well as underground parking, a fitness center and pool, wireless Internet, Dayton Street Grill, and The Bar. The Edvard Grieg Chorus has negotiated a discounted room rate for Sangerfest 2010. If you wish to register early, be sure to mention that you are participating in Sangerfest 2010 so that you secure this special rate. The number to call for reservations is 800-356-8293. Reservation information will also be included in the Sangerfest 2010 registration materials.

Dick Johnston, Corr. Sec.

Minutes of the 46th Biennial Sioux Valley Sangerfest

The business meeting of the 46th Biennial meeting of the Sioux Valley Singers Association was held on June 13th, 2009 at Lynwood Wesleyan Church in Sioux Falls, South Dakota with President Steve Espeland 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	Steven Espeland
Vice President	Wayne Mitchell
Secretary	Ronald Beck
Treasurer	David Stene
Marshal	Robert Tidemann
Director in Chief	Lyle Kroon
Assistant Director	Terry Walter

(Corrected entry)

Marshal Robert Tidemann reported that credential were received for the following delegates: Grieg Male Chorus (1) Robert Bergren and (2)Gerrit VanDenTop Jr.; Minnehaha Mandskor (1) John Rasmusson and (2)John Nelson; Nordic Male Chorus (1)Ed Stone and (2)Gary Munson; Norse Glee Club (1)Robert Amend, (2)David Hanson, (3)Marvin Nelson.

Minutes of the June 9th, 2007 meeting were read by the secretary. Motion to approve Ed Stone, second Robert Amend. Passed.

The treasurer's report showing a balance of \$610.32, income of \$93.64, no expenses and an ending balance of \$703.96. Report was received and filed for audit.

The secretary's report was given showing concerts by the Sioux Valley Singers for the following events:

45th Biennial SVSA Sangerfest at the Scandinavian Center in Sioux City, Iowa on June 9th, 2007

Nordland Fest at Augustana College Elmen Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota on June 23rd, 2007

Nordland Fest at Augustana College Elmen Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota on June 21st, 2008

57th Biennial NSAA Sangerfest at Fargo Convention Center in Fargo, North Dakota on July 26th to July 28th, 2008.

Election of new members

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

Minnehaha Mandskor Bruce Duncan James Stoeckmann

Nordic Male Chorus Mike Floyd David Gross Richard Michaelis

Norse Glee Club Rodney Hoff Gail Kristensen David Lien

Motion John Rasmusson, second Marvin Nelson that these singers be accepted as members of the Sioux Valley Singers Association. Motion carried unanimously.

Old business

Updating the membership directory was discussed at some length. Terry Walter and Ron Beck were appointed to head up the Directory Committee with input from Ed Stone, Nordic Male Chorus, Joe Isakson, Norse Glee Club and Bill Kortemeyer, Grieg Male Chorus.

New business

Motion Robert Amend, second Gary Munson that a memorial service honoring the following deceased members be included in the 2009 Sangerfest Concert Program:

- | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Norse Glee Club | Roswald Nearman | Kermit Erickson |
| Minnehaha Mandskor | Edward Oines | |
| Grieg Male Chorus | Lloyd Eiesland | Harley Eliason |
| Nordic Male Chorus | Robert Force | Melvin Moe Bennett Aust |

Motion carried.

Awards

Moved Ed Stone, second John Rasmusson that the following Sioux Valley Singers Association medals be presented and members recognized:

- | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 5 Sangerfests | Grieg Male Chorus | Gordon Grimsrud |
| | Minnehaha Mandskor | John Nelson |
| | | Don Cooper |
| | | Kirk Preheim |
| 10 Sangerfests | Norse Glee Club | Steven Espeland |
| | | Arthur Olson |
| | | George Regan |
| 15 Sangerfests | Norse Glee Club | Lyle Kroon |
| 20 Sangerfests | Norse Glee Club | Howard Paulson |

Motion carried.

Motion John Rasmusson second John Nelson that the accompanist for the SVS rehearsals and concerts be compensated according to the compensation received from the chorus he or she normally accompanies. After some discussion the motion was withdrawn by John Rasmusson.

It was noted that the schedule for Sangerfest adopted in 1999 was \$100 for director, \$75 for assistant director, \$100 for accompanist and \$35 for soloist.

Motion Terry Walter that each member chorus pay \$100 per year and \$1 per member as dues to the SVS Association. The motion died for lack of a second.

Motion Terry Walter second John Nelson that article 2 of the bylaws be changed to allow the delegates to change the dues by a 2/3 vote at their discretion as necessary to cover the costs associated with the SVS Association. Motion carried by show of hands.

Motion John Nelson second Gerrit VanDenTop that dues to SVS Association be set at \$5 per year per member. Motion carried.

Motion John Nelson second Marvin Nelson that salary for accompanist be set at \$40 for SVS Association rehearsals. Motion carried.

Motion Bob Amend second John Nelson that salary for director be set at \$55, accompanist at \$40 and soloists at \$35 for concerts other than Sangerfest. Motion carried.

Motion John Nelson second John Rasmusson to authorize an advertisement in the Christmas edition of the Sangerhilsen. Motion carried.

Suggestion by John Rasmusson that the host Sangerfest director have more input in the choice of songs for Sangerfest. After discussion no formal action taken on the proposal. All directors will share equally in the selection of songs to be performed.

Selection of next convention city

Motion John Rasmussen second Bob Amend to accept the invitation by the Minnehaha Mandskor to host the 47th Biennial Sangerfest in Sioux Falls, South Dakota in 2011. Motion carried.

Election of officers

Motion John Rasmussen second Bob Amend to cast unanimous ballot for the following candidates:

President Wayne Mitchell (Minutes corrected to reflect this error)

Vice President Curt Hepner

Secretary Ronald Beck

Treasurer David Stene

Marshal Robert Tidemann

Director in Chief Lyle Kroon

Assistant Director Terry Walter

Motion carried.

President Steve Espeland 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

Continued History of the PCNSA

The Second Sangerfest was held July 30-31, August 1, 1904 in Seattle with 160 active singers taking part. At that time the Parkland Singing Society, the San Francisco Singing Society and choruses from Silvana and Barlow, WA, joined the group.

Five additional singing groups became members of the association at the third annual Sangerfest held in Portland, OR, August 26-28, 1905, during the Lewis and Clark Exposition. Three hundred singers took part and were given an excellent opportunity for presenting Norwegian music to one of the most representative audiences ever assembled west of the Rockies.

In 1909 some 275 singers took part in the two concerts of the Sixth Annual Sangerfest in Seattle during the Alaska-Yukon Pacific Exposition, with soloists from abroad. Over 40,000 attended the fair on Norway

Day and the concerts were given outdoors.

The 1910 Sangerfest was distinguished by the fact that it was held in Eureka, CA, the only city on the west coast where steamboat was the only means of access. There were no trains and no buses. With few exceptions, Sangergests have been held annually ever since.

During its history, the organization has had several directors-in-chief. Carlo A. Sperati, Rudolph Møller, George S. Johnson, Monrad Malmim, August Werner, Henry Ringman, Gunnar J. Malmin, Dr. Alf L. Knudsen, Ed Amundson, Dr. Jon Malmin, Peter Butler and Steve Jensen have all taken their turns at the podium.

There have been several other Sangerfests of special interest: at Seattle in 1951 where 5200 heard the concert in the open air Aqua Theatre

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

**ILLINOIS
CHICAGO**

Bjornson Male Chorus

Rehearsals: Each Thursday 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, 1031 W. Ogden Ave. #118, Naperville, IL 60563. tel: (630)369-4233, cell: (630) 479-4233, thorljell@comcast.com. Corresponding Secretary: Truman Eddy, 50 W Medinah Road #105, Glendale Hts.,IL, 60139. tel (630)673-4385, te251@juno.com. 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, off. tel. (612) 673-5150, scschuett@gateway.net.

DECORAH

Luren Singing Society

Rehearsal: Every Monday night, 7:30 p.m. at Thomas Roberts High School. President: LeRoy Iverson, 107 Meadow View Dr, Decorah IA 52101 (563) 382-3584, leroyiverson@skorgen.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 judisca@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; Corr. Secretary: Robert Stenberg, 313 Washington Ave., Dell Rapids, S.D. 57022; 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, 8:00 p.m. at Nordic Hall. President: Robert Tidemann, 47164 254th St., Baltic, SD 57003 (605) 543-5249; Corresponding Secretary: Roger Johnson, 1912 Sylvan Circle, Box 563, Brandon, SD 57005, tel. (605) 582-2588. 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 Lutheran Church. President: Ronald Larson, 304 E. 2nd, Canton, S.D. 57013, (605) 987-4377; 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. lrkarli@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; Secretary: Ronald Beck, 28206 465th St., Lennox, SD 57039, tel. (605) 647-2851, beckpardo1@speednet.com; Vice President: Don Cooper, 2708 W Oak St. Sioux Falls, SD 57105 (605) 339-0607, clefdwellers_on_oak@juno.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: Mark Agerter, 3850 Gilham Rd, Eugene, OR, 97408, 541-685-0115, Agerter@peak.org; Vice President: Erling Skaar, 2320 NW 96th St, Seattle, WA 98117, 206787-4944, cleanfish@aol.com; Secretary: Phil Overlund, 11556 Shadow Ranch Rd, La Mesa, CA 91941, tel. (619) 660-1125, jpooverlund@cox.net; Treasurer: Orv Sletten, 3087 Oakcrest Dr NW, Salem, OR 97304, tel. (503) 581-7099, orvviv44@comcast.net; Marshal: Dan Moore, 210 Sunside Acres Dr., Eugene, OR 97401, 541-425-6421, daniellemoore@comcast.net; Trustees: Washington - Denney Helseth, 10301 Interlaaken Dr. SW, Lakewood, WA 98498, 253-588-2711, dhelseth@comcast.net; Oregon - Roger Ness, 3079 Stapp Dr, Eugene, OR 97408, tel. (541) 683-3359, rdpjness@juno.com; California - Howard Hansen, 149 Tharp Dr, Moraga, CA 94556, tel. (925) 376-7611.

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, 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 Blaafadt, 4174 Dena Way, Sacramento, CA 95821, tel: (916) 4827919, wbraafladt@softcom.net.

SAN DIEGO

San Diego Mannskor

Rehearsal schedule and location to be supplied. President: David Krogh, 3470 Abbey Blvd., Chula Vista, CA (619) 427-7602 dekrogh@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, mwilliams@eugenlaw.com; Director: Ed Amundson, 29453 Culver Lane, tel. (541) 998-6329 eaamundson@comcast.net.

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 Oakes Avenue

Everett, Washington 98203

Rehearsals are held every Wednesday evening, 7:30 p.m. at Normanna Hall, 11665 Pointe Place, Anacortes, WA. 98221-8519; President: Claire Egtvedt, 5904 96th Pl. SW, Mukilteo, WA 98275, tel (425) 347-4944, chegtvedt01@foxinternet.net; Secretary: Robert R. Larson, 1710 163rd St. S.E., Mill Creek, WA 98012, tel: (425) 379-8210, r2larson@msn.com; Director: Steve Jensen, 2694 Goshen Road, Bellingham, WA 98226, tel: (360) 966-3132, stmjensen@earthlink.net.

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: Jan Parker Peterson, 21600 Port Gamble Rd., Poulsbo, WA 98370, tel: (360) 697-3277.

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: Don Baines, 9217 27th Ave. NW, Seattle WA 98117, (206) 784-5245, danbaines@earthlink.net; Corresponding Secretary: Kenneth Lake, 5003 NE 194th Pl., Lake Forest Park WI 98155, (206) 362-5611, kennethlake@comcast.net. Director: Dr. Alf Knudsen, 1513 Debreton Lane, Mukilteo, WA 98275, tel: (425) 347-2769, alfknudsen@aol.com.

Skagit Valley Mannskor

Rehearsal every Monday at 7:00 PM Fir-Conway Lutheran Church, 18101 Fir Island Rd. Mt. Vernon Wa. 98273. Officers: President Alvin Stenslan, 11665 Pointe Place, Anacortes Wa. 98221 tel. 360-558-1166. Secretary Dick Tjersland, 17638 Greenacres Rd. Mount Vernon Wa. 98274360-428-4650. Director Steve Jensen, Bellingham WA, 98226 Cell phone 360-303-3919.

TACOMA

Normanna Male Chorus

Rehearsal: Each Monday 7:00 p.m., Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 3315 South 19th Street, Tacoma, Wash. President: Gene Wilson, 7620 98th Ave. SW, Lakewood WA 98498 (253) 582-9249; Corresponding Secretary: Harold Jacobsen, 11111 - 18th Ave. E., Tacoma, WA 98445, tel: (253) 537-7106, hmandcjjacobsen@juno.com; Director: Jon Malmin,

with Lauritz Melchior as soloist; in San Francisco during the Norway-Panama-Pacific Exposition in 1915; a trip to Norway in 1926 with a chorus of 48 selected singers under the direction of Rudolph Møller; at the Golden Gate International Exposition on Treasure Island in San Francisco, in 1939; during the Washington State Centennial year at Tacoma in 1953; a National Sangerfest in Sioux Falls, SD in 1992; our 100th Anniversary Sangerfest in Everett in 2002; and now our 100th Sangerfest in Eugene, OR in 2009.

Nine groups were affiliated with the PCNSA in 1959. At one time there were affiliated choruses in Ketchikan, another in Idaho and three in Montana. Now we count twelve member groups: Bellingham, Everett, Skagit Valley, Seattle, Poulsbo and Tacoma in Washington, Salem and Eugene in Oregon, Sacramento, Oakland, San Francisco and San Diego in California.

Taken from the Sons of Norway Magazine, July, 1959 edition. Updated 2009 by Mark Agerter.