



**VOLUME 102, NO. 3**

**DECORAH, IA**

**May-June 2012**



**EDVARD GRIEG CHORUS  
Madison, WI**

The Chorus' *Syttende Mai* concert on May 19 was a big success. The Chorus performed before a full house at the Stoughton Opera House. We sang a dozen songs including the two new songs we will be presenting in the Parade of Choruses at Sangerfest,

*O at jeg kunde min Jesus prise* and *Song for the Unsung Hero*. The audience was extremely responsive to our efforts sending us off with a standing ovation following our final number.

Since 1969, a Stoughton area couple has been chosen by the *Syttende Mai* committee to reign over

the festivities. These couples are chosen based on their contributions to the betterment of the “quality of life” in the Stoughton area, either through business or community service.

The Edvard Grieg Chorus is particularly proud of the six couples from the Chorus who have served as Kings and Queens of *Syttende Mai* celebrations in the past.

Couples so honored include Doug & Ardys Pfundheller (1981), David & Ann Nelson (1982), Myron & Dorothy Wilcox (1986), Orin & Dorothy Hermundstad (2004), Steve & Kris Christenson (2008), and Roger Roloff & Jo Laffey-Roloff (2009).

Following our concert, these couples joined other past dignitaries on the King and Queen’s float in the afternoon parade.

The theme of this year’s *Syttende Mai* celebration was “Bunads on Parade.” A unique Stoughton Bunad has been designed, and it, as well as bunads from the different regions of Norway were worn throughout the weekend and were featured in a bunad style show as well as displayed in various Main Street storefronts.

The Chorus has now turned its full attention to fine tuning its preparation for Sangerfest 2012. We look forward to joining all of our fellow singers in Chicago!



Dick Johnston, Corr. Sec.

### From the NSAA President

Dear Singer Brothers,

These few lines will be my last as President of the NSAA and Chairman of Sangerfest 2012; it has been my pleasure to serve you. On behalf of Bjornson Male Chorus and the Bjornson Ladies’ Auxiliary, we are looking forward to meeting and greeting each and every one of you. We are grateful for all who are able to attend, and send our best wishes to those who cannot.

At this time I would like to mention a few gentlemen who are no longer with us, but when they were here they contributed much not only to their choruses but to the entire Scandinavian community.

Les Amack: Les sang Second Bass and was a fine musician in his own right. He had a fine ear for music and was a great asset in our party room at Sangerfest. Many of us will long remember how he lit up the party room at Madison’s 2000 Sangerfest, playing one song after another on the piano. Many years ago, during one of our Spring Concerts at the Sacs Club, I came out with a one word solo on *I Guds Fri Natur*. Singing to a full house, I blared out, “*Priset*”, before everyone else and as loud as I could.

I immediately wanted to fall through the stage and become invisible. Les was in the audience that evening and after the concert came over and said, “Roger, I know you felt terrible after that solo, but if it is any consolation you were right on pitch.” As time passed we shared many laughs over that incident.

Earl Bichel: Earl, a strong bass-baritone was at one time Director of Bjørgvin Singing Society, a mixed chorus long since gone. Earl and I

spent 10 years singing next to each other, and I most certainly became a better singer with Earl next to me. Earl had a rich and powerful voice and whenever I sang a wrong note he was always there to help me out. A very unselfish man, Earl was one of the Voices Wayne Spies wrote about that you would never forget.

Ray Nilsen: Ray and his accordion were present at every Norwegian and Scandinavian function imaginable. Ray sang with both Bjornson Male Chorus and Normennenes Singing Society, in addition to singing and being a member of Minnekirken. Ray had a fine Second Tenor voice and was called upon many times for solos. My wife Leslie and I have wonderful memories of singing and dancing to Ray's signature song *Nidelven*.

Glenn Heggem: A very difficult name to put down as one that is no longer with us. Glenn, along with John Lee, Ray Dedricksen and at least a dozen more young fellows, came to Bjornson as teenagers still in Kelvyn Park High School during the late 1940s. The first person to greet me as I walked into Bjornson Male Chorus was Glenn, the chairman of the Music Committee at that time. Glenn also spent some time with the Edvard Grieg Chorus in Madison WI, a very close friend who will be sorely missed.

Another name I wish to mention is A. Peter Henriksen from the Normennenes Singing Society. Pete was as nice and friendly a man as you would ever want to meet. Always with a smile and kind word for everyone, he was the kind of man you felt you knew all your life.

We are saddened that they had to leave us. Perhaps their voices will be

heard again as they join all of the singers and directors that have preceded them in that much loftier chorus.

Thank you. Looking forward to seeing you soon.

*Med Sanger-Hilsen,*



Roger Stavnem

### NORDIC MALE CHORUS Sioux City IA

The Chorus was expected to have its usual festive time in song and fellowship at Sangerfest 59, echoing a history of music-making that dates to its organization in 1891.

They were eager also to do their thing in the Parade of Choruses with the Norwegian standard *Solnedgang* and a hand-clapping classic Southern Gospel song, "Your First Day in Heaven," by Stuart Hamblen, which served to introduce the well-known Gaither Vocal Band.

The Nordics will return home to join in a *Midsommar Dag* Festival which begins a season of ease with attendance at a July 4<sup>th</sup> baseball game of the Sioux City Explorers and a mystery bus tour on August 15<sup>th</sup>.

It's back to rehearsals again the third Monday in September.



Bob Hansen, Corr. Sec.

**SANGER-HILSEN**  
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**DEADLINE FOR  
 JULY-AUG. ISSUE  
 July 25, 2012**

**NORWEGIAN GLEE CLUB****Minneapolis MN**

We just finished *Syttende Mai* week as I write this, and the Glee Club was fully engaged with concerts in Rosedale on Wednesday, Burnsville on Thursday, and then a wonderful event at *Mindekirken* on Sunday. The Glee Club sang eight selections which were followed by a combined chorus of the Oslo *Reiselivskor* and the regular church choir. They were great.

Another special feature was the outstanding trumpet solos by Martin Hodel, Professor of Trumpet at St. Olaf College, and one of his students. The church was fully packed with standing room only.

A large number of children and adults in traditional Norwegian garb provided a festive atmosphere in the congregation.

As usual, after the service the young people with their care-givers led the parade around the neighborhood with flags waving and many Hoo-rah's.

One of our Hoo-rah leaders was absent. Bjorn Lasserud was in Oslo watching the parade in the rain. He makes this pilgrimage every year.

Special guests at the *Syttende Mai* service were Hon. Consul General Gandrud and Vice Consuls Christine Carleton and Britt de Lange Ardakani.

Now with Norwegian Constitution Day over, concentration will be on our final rehearsals before participation in Sangerfest at Pheasant Run. We will have a full bus of singers and spouses. President Herb states that he now has final documentation as to what kind of sandwich each wants when we stop at Norskedalen on the way. I think that was the final important detail to get

resolved, and we can now give our full attention to the Sangerfest to which we are all looking forward.

We have had one sad occasion since our last report, the passing of our good friend Oddmund Rekdal, who provided wonderful accordion music at each of our lutefisk dinners for many years. Oddmund was born in 1941 in Rekdal, Norway, and made many trips back "home" over the years. Special music at the funeral was provided by four of his close accordion friends: Helge Lamo, Mel Brenden, Dick Rees and Art Bjorngeld. The Glee Club sang *Den Store Hvide Flok* and *We Shall Walk through the Valley*. We will miss his presence and his music.

We want to thank Pastor Sundt and *Mindekirken* for including some brief copy in regard to the history and the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Glee Club. Dennis Sorheim, Chair of our Anniversary banquet, has finalized those details. We are going to have a booth at the Norway Day celebration at Minnehaha Park in July to add another recognition of this important achievement in the history of the Club.

For a smile: A woman, stark naked, jumped into a taxi in Minneapolis. The taxi driver Ole, who happened to be an old Norwegian, opened his eyes wide and stared at the woman. He made no attempt to start the cab.

"What's wrong with you, honey? Haven't you ever seen a naked lady before?" she asked. Ole said, "Lady, I'm not staring at you, I am telling you. Dat would not be proper vair I come from."

She said, "Well, if you are not staring at me, sweetie, what are you

doing then?” He said, “Vell, I am looking and looking, and I am tinking to myself, vair in da heck is dis lady keeping da money to pay for dis ride?”

Charles Engh, Corr. Sec.

**NORMENNENES SINGING SOCIETY  
Chicago IL**

On Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, Normennenes hosted its annual Spring concert at the Wellington in Arlington Heights. We were pleased to have the Chicago Latvian Men’s Choir as a guest chorus, with their director Mara Varpa.

An interesting footnote is that our accompanist Una Stroda also played for the selections sung by the Latvians. Also, Una was part of the program, performing two outstanding piano arrangements.

Our chorus had 13 singers present and did a great job performing. Our selections included: *Vi er sangere; Aura Lee; Sung kun I din ungdoms vår, Drinking Song; Vakra Sky; Within our hearts we cherish; Fader I himlen Hil dig, Norge.*

The Latvian Choir sang three numbers of their national tongue and had 18 singers present.

As a conclusion to the program, the two choruses combined to perform *Sanctus*, directed by Mara Varpa, and *God Bless America*, directed by Chuck Kessel.

The arrangements for the evening were handled by Hazel Peterson and Janet Wold. A *Tusen Takk* is extended to them for a job well done. The dinner and service were outstanding and we all enjoyed the sociability of the evening and even had a band for the dancers of the audience.

We are all anxiously looking forward to Sangerfest, truly a memorable experience. We commend the Bjornson Male Chorus for outstanding efforts and realize that we will all enjoy a great experience.

*Leve Sangen,*



Thor Fjell

**MINNEHAHA MANDSKOR  
Sioux Falls SD**

We have welcomed back our “snow birds,” and we have had perfect attendance at most of our rehearsals. We enjoyed performing a concert at Dow Rummel. It was very appreciated.

We’ve enjoyed the joint rehearsals and the benefits we received from them. Thank you, Sioux Valley directors.

At our May 7<sup>th</sup> rehearsal we were privileged to have Weston Noble, who has been interim director of choral music at Augustana College, as our guest director. What a bundle of expertise and enthusiasm!

We still need a bit more rehearsal on some of the Sangerfest numbers. We’ll see you in St. Charles.

Respectfully,



Bob Stenberg, Corr. Sec.

**LUREN SINGING SOCIETY**

**Decorah IA**

We may have been a bit short of 200 on stage for our combined concert on May 6<sup>th</sup> with the Norsemen male group from Luther, along with the Viking Voices from Decorah Middle School and two groups from the High School. But it was a good event with a good audience, and a worthy cause.

A successor to Dr. Peter has been named, Dr. Andrew Last, a Luther grad, with whom we sang when he was a member of the Norsemen a few years ago. We hope to continue this traditional concert for years to come.

On June 7<sup>th</sup>, we head to LaCrosse WI for a concert at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, where the Wergeland Lodge of Sons of Norway



May 6, Luren with Norsemen

It was a privilege to honor Tim Peter with a plaque and honorary member status in Luren, as he prepares to go to Stetson University in Florida.

will host us. We sing at 7, followed by pie and ice-cream. Yum, yum! It'll be a good dress rehearsal for the next week, when we go to St. Charles for Sangerfest.

We had our "primary" election this spring, and will ratify our choices next fall. There were very few changes in our leadership list.

Ken Larson, head of the Fair Food Stand Committee, has signed most of us up for our work and serve shifts. We will be extra busy July 10-14, just in time for a quick break before Nordic Fest July 26-28. We hope many of you readers will "return to the nest" (this year's Fest theme). We will help open the



Norsemen dir. Tim Peter honored.

Fest on Thursday evening, do our concert on Friday evening and ride in the parade on that Saturday.

Dr. Judisch, our director since 1975, has retired from his full-time teaching at Luther College (though not from his position with Luren). There will be a retirement party at the Steyer Opera House, adjacent to the Winneshiek Hotel, on Sunday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, right after Nordic Fest. He wants us to sing a few numbers for the occasion.

Adding to that weekend's hectic schedule is the wedding of one of our "Norwegian bachelor farmers" on that Saturday, July 28<sup>th</sup>. Dan Alstad will walk the plank/aisle. We wish him and his bride-to-be best wishes and congratulations.

We will sing at Spring Grove Aug. 10<sup>th</sup> for the *Sognefjordlag stevne*. And we have our first date for a Fall concert, Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> at Nazareth Lutheran Church, Cedar Falls IA.

Our membership chair has passed out forms for us to use in recruiting prospective members. Let's make Jim Womeldorf happy with a good batch of potential members for next fall.

This notice may be premature, but we did decide to offer hosting the 2016 Sangerfest. But if one of the Sioux Falls area choruses desires to do so, we would step back and host in 2018, our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year.

Looking forward to Sangerfest and seeing, renewing acquaintances and making new friends, and singing with and for many lovers of good music.



Don Berg, Corr. Sec.

**NORSE GLEE CLUB**

**Sioux Falls, SD**

Besides the weekly rehearsals leading up to the Sanger Fest, we performed, as planned, at two events in May. On Thursday, May 10, we supported worship services at St. Dymus Chapel at the state penitentiary. This is a regular activity we take part in every Spring. Additionally, on Thursday, May 17, we sang at the *Syttende Mai* celebrations in Sioux Falls. About 600 people had gathered for dinner. In addition to the national anthems, we presented an all Norwegian program. Those gathered showed much appreciation for our efforts, and notably many of them heartily joined in during both national anthems.

On June 7 we held the last of the combined rehearsals as the Sioux Valley Singers. Our four individual choruses, as well as the collective of us will be singing during the Parade of Choruses. All that now remains is to pack our bags and make our way safely to St. Charles. See you there!!



Gail Kristensen, Corr. Secy.

**NOTICE**

**NSAA Business Meeting**

The biennial regular business meeting of the Norwegian Singers Association of America will be held in the St. Charles Ballroom, #5 & #6 at Pheasant Run, St. Charles IL at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, June 16, 2012.



The Order of Business is:

- (1) Roll call of officers by the Recording Secretary;
- (2) Credentials Committee report;
- (3) Action of minutes of previous business meetings;
- (4) Action on applications of new choruses;
- (5) Director-in-Chief report;
- (6) President’s report;
- (7) Vice-Presidents’ reports;
- (8) Corresponding Secretary’s report;
- (9) Committee reports;
- (10) Treasurer’s report;
- (11) Auditors’ report;
- (12) Sanger-Hilsen Editor’s report;
- (13) Review and determine honorariums, membership dues, subscription rates, etc.
- (14) Unfinished business;
- (15) New business;
- (16) Invitation for the next Sangerfest;
- (17) Election of officers;
- (18) Adjournment.

**Reminder:** reports are to be submitted in writing.

**Credential forms will be distributed Thursday to the Choruses by the NSAA Corresponding Secretary.**

**Information on the PCNSA Norway tour in 2013, with invited participation by the NSAA**

(More detailed information will be available at NSAA Sangerfest 2012.)

There have been changes made from the previously published itinerary, in the January and February Sanger Hilsen.

The Tour will include 12 days of travel in Norway, not 14.

However, I am currently working on the possibility of NSAA members departing a few days earlier, staying a few days more in Norway, in connection with the American Coordination Council of Norway and the American Chamber Network’s annual Independence Day celebration in Frogner Park. It may be possible for NSAA to perform on 30 June, in Frogner Park, where several thousand people are expected to celebrate. We will depart 28 June if this is the case.

Note: Such an extension will mean additional Tour cost, but it will be a real feather in our cap to celebrate our Independence Day in such a prestigious venue in front of so many people.

The PCNSA group will be arriving at Oslo’s Gardermoen Airport, on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July. PCNSA is not able to depart before 30 June, from the west coast, as they have their Sangerfest concluding 29 June 2013.

We intend to add to the successes of NSAA previous tours of 1995, 1997 (joint with PCNSA) and 2005.

Leve Sangen, Thor Fjell

Yes, I am interested in receiving information regarding the Norway 2013 Tour.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Singer                       Non-Singer

Return to:

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**Program Cost (per person)**

(not including airfare) USD 2250

Airfare: Projected cost per person  
USD 1150

Single room supplement USD 710

**PCNSA 2013 Tour Itinerary  
(invited NSAA participation)****Day 1. June 30, 2013.** Depart USA on  
Iceland Air and SAS**Day 2. July 01: OSLO**  
Overnight Comfort Hotel Børsparken**Day 3. July 03: OSLO**  
Coach for 3 hr. city tour, with guide.**Day 4. July 4: OSLO**  
Coach for 3 hr city tour with guide.  
Possible evening concert.**Day 5. July 5: OSLO-STAVANGER**  
Train Oslo-Stavanger, reserved seats.  
Check in Clarion Hotel Stavanger**Day 6. July 05: STAVANGER**  
Coach for 3 hr. city tour, local guide.  
Possible evening concert.**Day 7. July 06. STAVANGER-BERGEN**  
Coach overland tour Stavanger-Bergen, 5  
hours. Check in Best Western HOTEL  
HORDAHEIMEN, city center.**Day 8. July 07. BERGEN**  
Coach for 3 hr. city tour, local guide.  
Possible evening concert.**Day 9. July 08. BERGEN-ALESUND**  
Four Ferry segment trip.  
Check in HOTEL SCANDINAVIA.**Day 10. July 09 ÅLESUND**Coach for 3 hour city tour, local guide.  
Evening transfer to Giske, and back.**Day 11. July 10. ÅLESUND-TRONDHEIM.**Toll roads Atlantic road, Trondheim road.  
Ferries. Check in COMFORT HOTEL PARK.**Day 12. July 11. TRONDHEIM**Coach for 3 hr. city tour, local guide.  
Possible evening concert.**Day 13. July 12. TRONDHEIM**

Day on own in Trondheim.

**Day 14. TRONDHEIM-USE or elsewhere**

Coach from hotel to Trondheim airport.

Tour is by JENSEN WORLD TRAVEL,  
LTD. 111 9<sup>th</sup> St. Wilmette IL  
60091. tel. 1-847-256-5550Note: to use United or Star Alliance  
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**Continued from Mar.-Apr. 2012  
Sanger Hilsen, p. 13****PCNSA San Diego Sangerfest  
June 21-23, 2012**

By Dr. Alf Lunder Knudsen

**‘Company Man’**The 1940 Ballard High School  
graduate, Harry Solheim, is a  
dependable man who spent / was  
employed by the telephone company  
Pacific NW Bell for nearly 40 years  
(1946-82) before retiring. As a true  
Washingtonian he naturally ‘spent a  
short time’ at the Boeing Airplane

Company (1940-44) with the intervening years spent as a Medic in the US Army Air Corps.

'Dedication' and 'Depend-ability' most accurately describe Harry Solheim, the 74-year member who served the Seattle NMC as Secretary for over 30 years, was President four times and has worked on every imaginable committee, never afraid of going that extra step for the singers.



Harry Solheim

He was a driving force on the committee that organized 'The Annual Scandinavian Night' with the Seattle Symphony Orchestra and Norwegian Male Chorus and the late Baritone Olav Eriksen of the Norwegian Opera as guest soloist.

Harry was right there when a committee spearheaded by the NMC organized the successful Bicentennial European Ethnic Song Festival of Seattle (1976). Singers from nine choral groups representing six different countries – Finland, Germany, Latvia, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland – plus the 60-piece Ballard Youth Band in the elevating orchestra pit put on a spectacular concert in the old Seattle Opera House utilizing three stages and ending with a Mass Chorus of over 400 voices and the BYB performing "Give Me Your

Tired Your Poor," "This Is My Country," and "The Battle Hymn Of The Republic".

#### **Age is but a number**

While most choruses struggle to recruit new singers and grow, the PCNSA has compiled a trio of young-at-heart choruses. The San Diego *Mannskor* (CA) was organized in 1993 and is hosting its second Sangerfest this year (2012), the first one hosted in 1996. "Skagit Valley *Mannskor*" (WA) founded in 2000, hosted *Sangerfest* in 2005 and again in 2011. The youngest member is "*Vestre Sund Mannskor*" organized in 2003 in Poulsbo, WA.

Behind every successful man there is a strong woman – Harry's wife Tordis, herself an emigrant from Norway and a 'go-getter', is his steady companion and strongest supporter... The strength behind every Norwegian Male Chorus is a dedicated group of women and they make sure that "this year's *Sangerfest* will be the best one ever" put on by a small but sturdy group of Vikings "with numerous songs in their hearts."

It is doubtful that 2<sup>nd</sup> Bass Harry Solheim's record-setting impressive statistics will be surpassed in the nearest future, however Seattle has a couple of more spry singers.

Lars Steinnes joined the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tenor section in 1978 and can boast of attending 35 *Sangerfester*. He is also Seattle's "Grand Old Man" who turned '100 years young' on July 11, 2011. Lars emigrated from Finnøy outside Stavanger, Norway and came to Arlington SD via New York in 1929 before eventually landing in Seattle.



Lars Steinnes

The 93-year-old 1<sup>st</sup> Tenor Hans Mueller started in 1988 in the Seattle Chorus, when he moved to Seattle. So far during his 25-year membership he logged in 16 *Sangerfester* as well as three PCNSA Concert Tours of Norway.



Hans Mueller

**Nonagenarian Quartet**

The Seattle NMC is now looking for a Baritone/ First Bass in his nineties to complete its Nonagenarian Quartet – centenarians may qualify and be considered for the position. Younger singers are naturally welcome to the chorus at large as well!

\*\*\*\*\*

**GRIEG MALE CHORUS**

**Canton, SD**

At the time I prepared our last correspondence from the Grieg Chorus, the 2012 NSAA Sangerfest

seemed like an event in the distant future; now only two weeks from registration day, there suddenly feels like there isn't enough time to prepare to be gone, or put the finishing "polish" on musical selections. I can only imagine how the time has flown for our hosts as they prepare for this great event. We look forward to enjoying all the special events our host chorus members and their families have prepared for us.

Members attending Sangerfest have participated in three joint rehearsals hosted by member choruses of the Sioux Valley Singers Assoc. with the fourth to be hosted by the Norse Glee Club on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

June is a month of special celebrations for three families in our chorus: Gordon and Ella Grimsrud will celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. The same day Lane and Ranae Karli celebrate their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, and on June 17<sup>th</sup> Lyle and Sharon Schwartz celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Gordon is a second tenor in our chorus, Lyle is a bass, and Lane is our Grieg Male Chorus Director. CONGRATULATIONS!! on these milestone anniversaries, with wishes for great and memorable celebrations with family and friends.

Looking forward to fellowship and harmony as we all meet at the 59<sup>th</sup> Santerfest!



Jerry Holter, Corr. Sec.

**Minnehaha Mandskor  
Member Spotlights**

Spotlight on Wayne Mitchell

Dr. Wayne Mitchell joined the Mandskor 10 years ago at the invitation of Bob Stenberg and “Ace” Park. He sings second tenor.

His versatility has brought much to the group and he is frequently featured soloist in songs like “Bring Him Home”, “Den Store Hvide Flok” “Vikingarne” and “Beautiful Savior”. He also conducts in the absence of the director.

The Mandskor was privileged to attend the wedding reception for Wayne and Doris a number of years ago. Doris’ late husband Wayne Bjordahl had also sung with the Mandskor so it’s nice to have Doris back in auxiliary. The Mitchells live in Dell Rapids where they have heaven on earth in their backyard.



Dr. Wayne and Doris Mitchell

The Mandskor enjoyed touring the gardens at its summer picnic last year. Dr. Mitchell is a Sioux Falls native with degrees from Augustana College (BA), University of Colorado (MM) and University of Iowa (DMA). He is a retired voice professor. His hobbies include construction projects and odd jobs but he is still singing as a

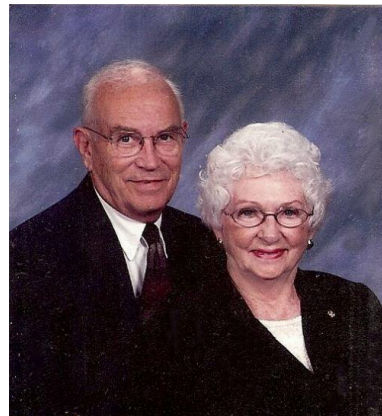
professional performer. Doris is retired as bookkeeper for the family business. Wayne has 2 sons and Doris has 5 children.

Spotlight on John Nelson

John Nelson joined the second tenor section of the Mandskor a dozen years ago, thanks to the urging of fellow singer Ray Ode and director Terry Walter. When John joined, his wife Margie joined the auxiliary with equal enthusiasm. Sadly, Margie succumbed to a brain tumor.

John’s current wife Donna is a Dell Rapids native and came into the auxiliary comfortably having known many of the group for years. John was born and schooled in nearby Brandon.

He is retired from All-American Freight and Stan Houston Equipment and now works as a CPA (certified parking attendant) with Avera McKennan Hospital’s valet parking. He has sung with the local Elk’s Chorus and the Shrine Chanters as well as the Sr. Choir at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church.



John Nelson and Donna Entringer

(continued page 16)

## Norwegian Singers Association of America, Inc.

([www.nsaaonline.org](http://www.nsaaonline.org))  
**Pacific Coast Norwegian  
 Singers Association**  
 ([www.pcnsa.org](http://www.pcnsa.org))  
**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.

#### Normennesen 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](mailto:thorffjell@comcast.net). Recording Secretary: Frank Potempa, 1788 W. Sherwood Rd., [fcpotempa@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fcpotempa@sbcglobal.net) Director: Charles Kessell, 6042 W. Grace St., Chicago, IL 60634. Tel: (773)481-5941, cell (773)858-5325, [perc55@juno.com](mailto:perc55@juno.com).

### ROCKFORD

#### Harmony Singing Society

Rehearsal each Tuesday 7:30 p.m. at our Club: 1104 15<sup>th</sup> Ave. Rockford, IL 61104. President: Jim Wolf, 1104 15<sup>th</sup> Ave., Rockford, IL 61104, tel (815) 965-7833.; Corresponding Secretary: Dan Lindberg 214 Rome Ave. #2 Rockford, IL 61107. Tel. (815) 229-0625. [Danielalindberg@CS.COM](mailto:Danielalindberg@CS.COM) Director: Paul Steffan, 4225 Barley Ridge Tr., Cherry Valley IL 61016, tel (815) 289-8077.

### 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](mailto:gregors5@juno.com); Director: Charles Schuett, 5040 Stone Ave., Sioux City, IA 51106, tel. (712) 276-2328, [scschuett@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 Sløstad, 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. 46<sup>th</sup> St., Sioux Falls, SD. President: Kirk Preheim, 47784 Julie Rd, Sioux Falls SD 57108. Tel.(605)743-2102, Cell (605)351-5183, [preheimkirk@sdtv.com](mailto:preheimkirk@sdtv.com). Corr. Secretary: Robert Stenberg, 313 Washington Ave., Dell Rapids, S.D. 57022; (605)428-3911, [abstenberg@goldenwest.net](mailto:abstenberg@goldenwest.net) Director: Terry Walter, 2708 West Oak St., Sioux Falls, SD 57105, tel. (605) 339 0607, <[clefdwellers\\_on\\_oak@juno.com](mailto:clefdwellers_on_oak@juno.com)>.

#### Norse Glee Club

Rehearsal: Each Monday, 7:30 p.m. at Nordic Hall. President: Robert Amend, 46458 267<sup>th</sup> St., Hartford, SD 57033-6917. Tel. (605)361-2061; Corresponding Secretary: Gail Kristensen, 11 W. 17<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:ringshanks@iw.net) Corresponding Secretary: Jerry Holter, 28724 480<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:mycurt@sio.midco.net). Vice President: Ed Stone, 2009 3rd Ave, So. Sioux City NB 68776 (402)494-2956 [jeston7@longlines.com](mailto:jeston7@longlines.com) Secretary: Ronald Beck, 28206 465<sup>th</sup> St., Lennox, SD 57039, tel. (605) 647-2851, [beckpardoxx@speednet.com](mailto: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](mailto:jpoverlund@cox.net);  
Vice President: Ken Lake, 5003 NE 1094 PL, Lake Forest Park, WA 98155, (206) 362-5611, [kennethlake@comcast.net](mailto:kennethlake@comcast.net); Secretary: Claire Egtvedt, 5904 96<sup>th</sup> St SW, Mukilteo WA 98275 (425) 347-4944 [chegtvedt@comcast.net](mailto:chegtvedt@comcast.net); Treasurer: Jeff Tremblay, 18724 Soundview Dr, Stanwood WA 98292 (360) 652-0371 [jtremb2@aol.com](mailto:jtremb2@aol.com); Trustees: California: Borre Ulrichsen, 715 Cascade Ct, Walnut Creek CA 94598, (415) 205-8064, [borre@ulrichsen.net](mailto:borre@ulrichsen.net); Oregon: Orv Sletten, 3087 Oakcrest Dr NW, Salem, OR 97304, tel. (503) 581-7099, [orvviv44@comcast.net](mailto:orvviv44@comcast.net); Washington: Pete Petersen, 713 E 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. Ellensburg WA 98926, (509) 607-9406 [o.petersen@gmail.com](mailto:o.petersen@gmail.com). Trustee at Large: Mark Agerter, 3850 Gilham Rd, Eugene, OR, 97408, (541)-685-0115, [markagerter@peak.org](mailto: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](mailto:jugjockp47@aol.com); Director: Dick Meyer, 3440 Adell Ct., Apt. 2, Oakland, CA 94602, tel. (510) 482-4714, [meyersfbc@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:wbraafladt@softcom.net); Secretary: Rolf Owre, 145 Baxter Ave., Sacramento, CA 95818, tel: (916) 925-8409; Director: Walter Blaafladt, 4174 Dena Way, Sacramento, CA 95821, tel: (916) 4827919, [wbraafladt@softcom.net](mailto: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](mailto:svenio@sbcglobal.net); Secretary: Jon Homerud, 3354 Bonica Woods Dr., Bnita, CA 91902 (619) 470-8745 [holmerud@cox.net](mailto:holmerud@cox.net); Director: Joyce Olsen, 2991 Jacks Creek Place, Escondido, CA 92027, tel. (760) 735-6171, [joyceolsen@mac.com](mailto: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](mailto:dchouse@earthlink.net); Director: Rebecca Stein, 204 Roseann, Pittsburg, CA 94565, tel. (925) 432-1120, [beccab63@hotmail.com](mailto:beccab63@hotmail.com).

## OREGON

### EUGENE

#### The Nørsemen

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](mailto:bagaason@rio.com); Secretary: Roger Ness, 3079 Stapp Dr. Eugene, OR 97408,

tel. (541) 505-7769, [rdpjness@hotmail.com](mailto:rdpjness@hotmail.com); Director: Ed Amundson, 29453 Culver Lane, tel. (541) 998-6329 [amundson@peak.org](mailto: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 47<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE, Salem OR 97305; Director: Peter Butler, 31869 Eastway, Lebanon, OR 97355, tel. (503) 259-2006, [whitewolf@proaxis.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:Feris.Allen@msn.com); Secretary: Robert Bruland, tel. (425)335-1150 [r.bruland@frontier.com](mailto:r.bruland@frontier.com). Director: Steve Jensen, 2694 Goshen Road, Bellingham, WA 98226, tel: (360) 966-3132, [stmjensen@earthlink.net](mailto: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](mailto:Kathy@meland.com).

### SEATTLE

#### Norwegian Male Chorus

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

#### Skagit Valley Manskor

#### PO Box 481, Mt. Vernon, WA 98273

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

### TACOMA

#### Normanna Male Chorus

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

(Spotlight on John Nelson, continued from page 13.)

For a time, both a son and grandson sang with him in the Mandskor. His hobbies include woodworking and flowers. John has 3 sons and a

daughter and an array of Nelson grandchildren since daughter Susan married a Nelson. His hobbies include woodworking and flowers. He says his years of singing have been “great!”