

VOLUME 99, NO. 6

DECORAH, IA

Nov.-Dec. 2009

Riu, riu chiu, la guarda ribera, Dios guardo el lobo de nuestra cordera.

El lobo rabioso la quiso morder, mas Dios poderoso la supo defender; Quisole hazer que no pudiesse pecar, ni aun original esta Virgen no tuviera.

Riu, riu chiu, la guarda ribera, Dios guardo el lobo de nuestra cordera.

Este qu'es nascido es el gran monarca, Cristo patriarca de carne vestido; Hanos redimido con se hazer chiquito, aunqu'era infinito, finito se hizera. Riu, riu, chiu, The river bank protects it, As God kept the wolf from the lamb.

The rabid wolf tried to bite her,
But God Almightly knew how to defend her,
He wished to create her impervious to sin,
Nor was this maid to embody original sin.

Riu, riu, chiu, The river bank protects it, As God kept the wolf from the lamb.

He comes to give life to the dead, He comes to redeem the fall of man; This Child is the light of day, He is the very Lamb Saint John Prophecied.

Riu Riu Chiu is a Spanish Christmas carol with words and melody that probably date to the sixteenth century and earlier. The title words Riu Riu Chiu represent the song of the nightengale to the Spanish speaker. Its tune is lively and rhythmic, lingering in one's ear long after singing it.

NORDIC MALE CHORUS Sioux City IA

The Nordic Male Chorus, brightly assisted in song by member wives and friends, has begun its new season on a Christmas note, with five Yuletide programs in November and December at local retirement homes, enjoying a festive party along the way.

The combined group also provided the program for the annual Christmas dinner of the Scandinavian Societies.

After a break for the Holidays, the Chorus will begin rehearsals for Sangerfest 2010,, looking forward to the visit in June to Madison WI.

The Chorus has been saddened by the deaths of two former members, the Rev. Harold L. Norheim and Lloyd O. Aasen. Both had been members of the Scandinavian Societies also.



Rev. Harold Norheim

Rev. Norheim, 87, passed away last August in Waconia MN, where he and his wife, Betty (Mikkelson), whom he married in 1947, had resided for a number of years. He was born in Minneapolis on May 30, 1922. He graduated from the University of Michigan in 1947 and Luther Seminary in 1951. He served parishes at Russell and Balaton MN, Cylinder IA, Lisbon IL, Stockton IL and Merrill IA. After retirement in 1986 he moved to Sioux City and joined the Nordic Chorus.

Mr. Aasen, 96, passed away Nov. 6th at a local nursing home. The veteran

chorister had a remarkable record of more than 62 years as a member of Nordic Chorus, before retiring at an elderly age. He sang in many concerts with both Nordic and massed groups, proudly wearing his gold-with-diamond medal awarded for 20 NSAA Sangerfests. His parents were immigrants from Norway. He was born and reared in Sioux City.



Lloyd Aasen

Lloyd worked for the *Sioux City Journal* from 1936 to 1943 before joining the US Navy during World War II. On return he worked as a chief industrial engineer for Sioux Tools, retiring in 1978.. His wife Ruth, whom he married in 1938, died in 2006.

Blessed be the memory of these two Nordic singers.

Bob Hansen, Corr. Sec.

NORWEGIAN GLEE CLUB Minneapolis MN

As this is written, in a few days we will be celebrating Thanksgiving. There is still much for which to be thankful, even as we navigate some perilous waters in this great country of ours. When this copy is printed and mailed, Christmas will be upon us. For most of us it is a time of hope, joy and renewal as we are reminded of the miracle that we celebrate that day.

This past Sunday we sang again at the Fort Snelling Chapel. This is always special for us. It is a beautiful venue full of memories and history, and makes us always mindful of the sacrifices of our armed forces throughout the world and their families that await their safe return. To be in a remote location far from home on Christmas is a sad and lonely feeling that I can still vividly recall. We send our blessings and prayers for all who serve, to keep them safe.

This has been a very busy Fall for the Norwegian Glee Club. In addition to concerts we recorded a CD of Christmas music. Still to come, our traditional Christmas party on Dec. 5th, our Christmas concert on Dec. 13th at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Hopkins, plus concerts on Dec. 5th and 16th. The Swedish Institute's Male Chorus plus the Seven Gifts, a women's sextet (!), will be joining us for this special Christmas concert that has been arranged by our Director, Carsten Slostad.

Something that I was supposed to keep secret (but I like to leak good news): Arnulf Skomsoyvag's brother from Norway is going to make a surprise visit in a few days to help Arnulf celebrate 75 years of good life, under Mary's TLC. The Skomsoyvag household will be filled with a lot of Holiday cheer.

Another milestone is for our esteemed Club President, Herb Nelson, as he celebrates his 75th anniversary. As this comes just a couple days after our Christmas party, I am sure he will want to hoist a toast in recognition of this event.

Another of our talented singers, Grady Watts, has reached this same point in his life. As he is an accomplished parachutist, I understand there is talk of his emulating G. H. W. Bush with a jump on his birthday. Watch for this on the local news.

As a note of caution during these beautiful Fall days, if you are walking one of our many trails, be alert to someone flashing past you on rollerskis. It will be our World Champion cross-country skier, Bjorn Lasserud, keeping in shape while he awaits the snow. At the golden age of 80, he still keeps up with the youngsters.

Our business manager Gary Rust is already booking concerts for the spring and, of course, after the Holidays we will be giving special attention to the selections we will be singing at the Madison Sangerfest.

We have added two fine, new singers to the Glee Club; more about them later.

We wish for all singers and their families a glorious, blessed Christmas.

For a smile: A teacher was reading the story of the Three Little Pigs to her class. She came to the part where the first pig was trying to gather the building materials for his home. She read, "And so, the pig went up to the man with a wheelbarrow of straw, and said, 'Pardon me, sir, but may I have some of that straw to build my house?

The teacher paused, then asked the class, "And what do you think the man said?" One little boy raised his hand and said matter-of-factly,, "I think the man would have said, 'Well, I'll be damned! A talking pig!'

The teacher had to leave the room.

Charles Engh, Corr. Sec. "The trouble with music appreciation in general is that people are taught to have too much respect for music; they should be taught to love it instead."

SANGERHILSEN ("SINGERS GREETING")

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DEADLINE FOR JAN.-FEB. ISSUE

January 27, 2010





Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

from the Edvard Grieg Chorus

Proud hosts of the
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Ticket Prices (General Public)
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Holiday Greetings From the Sioux Valley Singers Association

Jul Hilsen fra

Minnhaha Mandskor Sioux Falls
Norse Glee Club Sioux Falls
Grieg Male Chorus Canton
Nordic Male Chorus Sioux City

Wayne Mitchel, President
Don Cooper, Vice President
Ronald Beck, Secretary

David Stene Treasurer

NORSE GLEE CLUB Sioux Falls SD

I guess the best place to start this article is where I left off in the last issue. So here is the pertinent news, even though many of you know it already. Another two days and the second lutefisk dinner will be history. Some have expressed a few groans, but by and large it makes for good fellowship!

Other events on the agenda: Nov. 2^{nd} the Club celebrated its 81^{st} Anniversary with a Dinner at First Reformed Church in Sioux Falls. Our thanks to Lyle Kroon for making the arrangements and presenting an interesting program. His article comes later.

Nov. 19th, a joint rehearsal of participating choruses will be held at the Center for Active Generations. This is in preparation for the Festival

of Men's Choruses that will be held at the Washington Pavilion Nov. 29th.

On Saturday, Nov. 28th, the choir will sing on KELO TV at 7:00 a.m.

Dec. 6th, the choir will give a concert at Waterford Chapel.

Dec. 14th, we will gather for our annual Christmas party at Nordic Hall, and on Dec. 17th we will give a concert at the State Penitentiary.

Now for Lyle's article about his trip to South Africa:

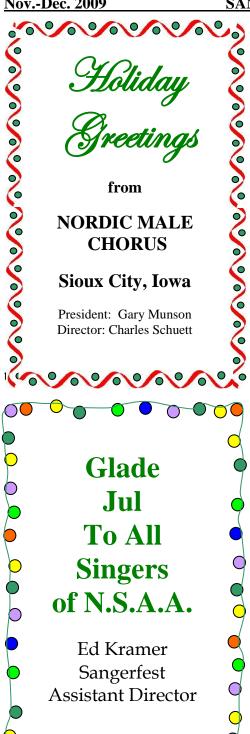
Zambia, Africa 2009

Having made this trip before, there was great anticipation for meeting people we had gotten to know in 2008 on our first trip to Zambia. We were excited to meet and greet our hosts, David and Beth Watters, at the airport in Livingstone, Zambia after four flights that took us from Sioux Falls to Minneapolis, then Atlanta, to a night's stay in Johannesburg, South Africa, and then finally to Zambia. Then a three-hour van ride to Choma, which would be our home for the next week.

The first day was spent getting acquainted with our new facilities and reacquainting ourselves with the staff of WHIZ. This was followed by a shopping trip to the market in Choma, but first we converted our US dollars to Zambian Kqwacha at a rate of \$1 to 5000 ZK

The next five days would be spent traveling to five villages to spend some time helping them with the economic projects they had chosen to bring up the standard of living for their villages. We helped carry bricks from an adobe oven as well as pick vegetables from a garden and carry water from the well, their center of life.

But each day was completed with four home visits. We stopped to visit



family members was affected by HIV. (In Zambia, the adult population is about 20% HIV positive.) We had the opportunity to hear the stories of the family members about how they contracted the disease and how it has affected their lives. Many are unable to work because they have become so weak.

Then we would make two home visits where families in the village had taken in children who were orphaned because of the death of a parent or both parents from AIDS. Again, the stories are amazing, and it is a wonder how they continue to exist with so little by American standards. what we did find in many of the homes and villages was a joy that comes from deep within each person.

We did not leave any of the homes without giving a donation of food supplies, some clothing, a Bible, and spending time in prayer at each of the homes we visited. This was a tremendous experience for all seven of the team members who made the

On Sunday we worshipped in an adobe brick church in Muzoka. On Saturday evening we were informed that one of our team would be expected to deliver a message to the congregation on Sunday morning; that task fell to me. It was more than a blessing to be able to share in the worship service with our family in Christ.

But for me the highlight of the trip was meeting an eight-year old girl from Sianankanga Village. Her name is Trigar Simenda. After the first trip to Zambia, I chose to sponsor a child and provide funds for her to attend She has lost both of her school. parents because of AIDS, and now

lives with her elderly grandmother. Without assistance she would not be able to attend school, because you must pay to go to school; it is not free. Part of my heart has remained in Zambia with this little girl. We were able to spend time playing soccer, doing some crafts and eating some lunch together. She in turn returned to her village knowing that someone does care about her future, and she will have stories to tell her friends about the man who brought her gifts and love from the USA.

Before returning to the US, we did have part of a day to sightsee at Victoria Falls. If there ever was a demonstration of the power of God in nature, this is truly one of His great wonders of creation. We walked among the baboons as we viewed the Falls. The next morning we took an early ride through the game preserve near Livingstone, where we watched elephants, giraffe, zebra, cape buffalo, and many more animals meander in their natural settings.

I count myself very fortunate to have been granted the ability to make this trip, as it has invigorated my life in a way that nothing else can or will. It is tremendous to share God's love with a people who have so few earthly possessions, but such a tremendous love for our Father in heaven.

By Lyle Kroon

Thank you, Lyle, for this interesting account of your trip. One of the fruits of your trip is that the choir voted at its last meeting to sponsor and pay for a teenager to go to school for two years. If I heard correctly, the cost is about \$485 per year.

In closing, we are reminded of Eldon Johnson, who died Nov. 6th. He was born Oct. 22, 1923.



Eldon Johnson

He was a life-long member of Benton Lutheran Church and a longtime member of Norse Glee Club. He contributed much to the activities of our Glee Club, and we do miss him!

Now it may seem to some of you that this report is plenty long or just pain too long. So I will do my utmost in the next issue to shorten my report at least by a sentence or two or maybe a whole paragraph. In the meantime, "Press On!"

K. Roger Johnson, Corr. Sec.

Norwegian American Weekly 120 years Old and Growing!

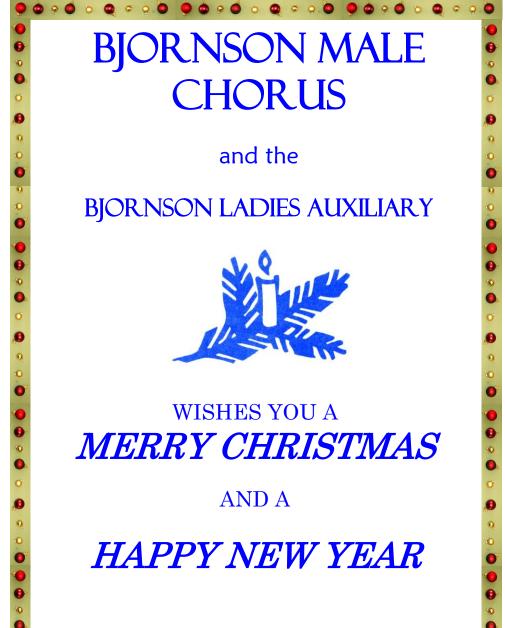
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Normennenes Singing Society

WWW.NORWAYSINGS.ORG Organized October 30, 1870

2008-2009 Officers

<i>Thor Fjell</i>	President
Howard Larson	Music Chairman
Charles Kessell	Director
Una Stroda	Accompanist

NORMENNENES SINGING SOCIETY Chicago IL

(Gleaned from President Thor Fjell's Annual Message of November 2009)

Great cooperation of the entire membership throughout the year has reinforced the TEAM concept:.. Together Everyone Accomplishes More.

The chorus has shown steady impro-

vement under the direction of Chuck Kessell, aided by our accompanist, Una Stroda,, who also shows great talent as a solo performer.

We learned recently that Bjornson Male Chorus will host the 2012 Sangerfest June 14-16 at the Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles. It should be a benefit for our membership goals to have the next two Sangerfests close to home.

Our house parties continue to be popular and a great source of fellowship. Active participation is a catalyst for continued growth and success for our organization. Let us continue with optimism, renewed goals, and let us have lots of fun along the way.

We held our 139th Anniversary party on Oct. 24th with about 65 attending, including the Grieg Ladies, who added so much to the evening.

Our Christmas party is set for Dec. 4

MINNEHAHA MANDSKOR Sioux Falls SD

Greetings, Brother Singers:

Fall rehearsals have been very fine, with good attendance and enthusiasm. We have been fortunate to have a new tenor join the chorus, Jake Van Den Hul (how's that for Norwegian?) He's a great asset to our tenor section.

Isaac Walter, father of our director Terry Walter, passed away suddenly. Mandskor was honored to sing at the worship service at Salem Mennonite Brethren Church, Freeman SD.

We are well prepared for the Festival of Men's Voices Christmas concert on Nov. 29th at the Washington Pavilion. We also look forward to our Mandskor Christmas party on Dec. 7th. We are happy to have two more concerts scheduled for December – one at Oak View Terrace Nursing home in Freeman on Dec. 12th, and one at Bethany Meadows in Brandon on Dec. 14th.

Our Mandskor president Ray Ode and wife Bonnie celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov.28th. We are proud of them and cordially extend congratulations.

We are about to be in panic mode! Our annual fund-raiser, "Dad's Belgian Waffle Feed" will be on Jan. 10th, 2010. We never get excited about it in December – then Whoops! It's January! Only one week to prepare! Wish us good luck and good weather.

Merry Christmas! Happy New Year!

P.S. Final crop report: Wouldn't you know? Corn topped out at 300 bu./ acre and soybeans at 80 bu./ acre. Cheers...

Bob Stenberg, Corr. Sec.

LUREN SINGING SOCIETY Decorah IA

Our mini-tour to Southeast Iowa and into Illinois on Oct. 23-25 turned out very well. The sections of the chorus were well balanced, and travel by bus (with some driving their own vehicles) was uneventful. We did not overshoot our destinations, nor hit any

deer or other vehicles. The rainy weather eased off for our visit to Bishop Hill in Illinois, so we had a good day for sightseeing, etc. We sang Friday evening in Rock Island, on Saturday evening at a Methodist Church in Bishop Hill, and Sunday afternoon at Keokuk as the first of their community concert series of the year.

Saturday, Nov. 7th, we sang for the Memorial Service for those people who had been part of the Hospice care program of Winneshiek Medical Center and had died during the past year.

The following Sunday, Nov. 8th, we returned to Tomah WI for an afternoon concert.

Wearing our unofficial "uniform" of Norwegian sweaters, we caroled at the Norwegian-American Museum and the area nursing homes on Dec. 6th, after which we gathered at Good Shepherd Lutheran for a delightful and delicious meal provided by our two directors Judisch and Gluth and their wives. We thank them sincerely for their hospitality.

The pre-Christmas concert is always a highlight event of the year, with our party following. A midweek snowstorm with 12 inches of snow caused some anxiety, but travel conditions by Sunday, Dec. 13, were fine. A Luther College senior, Maggie Boland, was our featured soloist for several pieces.

"A Touch of Brass" and the Oneota Valley Children's Choir added to the program immensely. The offering was designated for three area charities: two food shelves and a Free Clinic.

We will resume rehearsals on Jan. 18th. Sometime during the break the Norway Tour committee will meet to review and revise plans for 2011. Our

chairperson, Larry Lubbert, keeps us informed of some good news and some bad news in the responses to our attempts to set up suitable venues for the tour.

New Member



Jon Payne

Jon Payne was born at Long Beach CA, the youngest of three sons. Both of his parents were educators, his father at Cal State – Sacramento, and his mother a fifth grade teacher for 32 years. Jon graduated from San Juan High School in Citrus heights CA and received an AA from American River College, after which he attended Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo CA.

Jon spent 1971-75 in the US Air Force.

Jon married in 1971 and his two sons by his first wife. Both live in California.

After military discharge Jon worked at Cal State – Sacramento, retiring in July 2009 to Harpers Ferry, along the Mississippi River.

Jon remarried on July 18, 2004. With wife Gloria he gained two step-children, both of whom still live in California.

Jon sang in a capella choir and Madrigal in High School, as well as at American River College. At Cal Poly he was in the Men's Glee Club. Also, He has sung barbershop since 1984. In addition he plays cello.

Jon learned about Luren via Bob Lillie. He sings second tenor. About Luren his first impressions are: very good, discipline, challenging music to work on.

We welcome Jon and Gloria to our Luren family.

We should note that Dr. Richard Simon Hanson has returned to Luren, following the death of his wife Rita. He is now helping the second basses, who have been a bit depleted by some retirements.

On Dec. 10th, Raymond Ramsey He had been a died at age 82. member of Luren over 40 years ago for several years. He sang second tenor. In the funeral sermon Pastor Mau commented on hearing that tenor voice close to the front of the church and wondering whose it was.

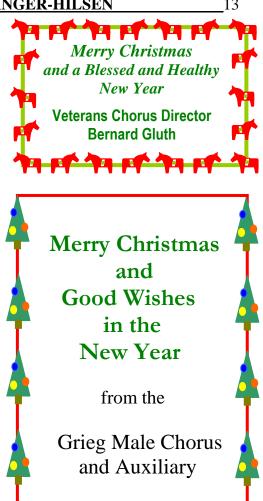
Ray was in a Luren picture of ca. 1962 that was displayed at the funeral service, which was held Dec. 14th.

Details are still being worked out, but tentative plans are for a joint concert of Luren, The Norsemen from Luther College, and the Northern Union Chorus from Minneapolis, to be held at the Center for Faith and Life at Luther College in mid-April of 2010. The combined group should be ca. 200 men: it should be a treat and

Until next time, take care of each other.

Don Berg, Corr. Sec.

God Jul Merry Christmas



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V	SEASON'S GREETINGS	ŋ
IJ	Francis Peterson	IJ
U	NSAA Past President	U
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Canton, South Dakota

LUREN SINGING SOCIETY

Decorah, IA

Founded March 17, 1868

"We the members of the Luren Singing Society family wish one and all fellow-singers and families of NSAA and PCNSA choruses the best of Holiday Happiness and New Year joys. May the love and enjoyment of male chorus singing continue and thrive through our individual and group efforts during the coming years.

Maynard and Minerva Aaker

Dan Alstad

Arthur and Norma Amundson Carrol and Dagmar Anderson

David H. Andreae Kurt Anfinson

Fred and Barbara Arnold Dennis and Doris Barnaal Donald and Barbara Berg

Wayne and Marlene Bicknese John and Susan Boehm

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Tom and Connie Buresh William and Jeri Busse Dave and Brenda Carlson

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Paul and Lois Estrem Merlyn and Shirley Finley Dean and Ellen Fisher

Mike and Pat Fitzgerald

Ron and Karen Fretheim

James and Ruth Glesne Bernhard and Carol Gluth

James and Karen Gray David and Bette Greedy Lee and Gayle Grippen Dean and LaRue Hagen Robert and Betty Hansen

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Kenneth and Mary Timmerman Greg and Karen Tjossem George and Phyllis Trytten

David Vasquez and Karla Suomola

Ralph Van Fossen

Matthew Umphreys, Accompanist

Harold and Harriet Walker Clayton and Harriet Wangsness James and Laurel Womeldorf

Mrs. Marjorie Amundson Mrs. Edna Beerman

Mrs. Iona Crawford Mrs. Eileen Delk

Mrs. Jean Forde Mrs. Eloise Hoff

Mrs. Marjorie Hove Mrs. Haldis Kaasa

Mrs. Elsie Kittleson Mrs. Marie Krambeer

Mrs. Ethel Kvammen Mrs. Mary Martinson

Mrs. Colleen Peterson

Mrs. Catherine Rosenthal Mrs. Carmen Sunde Mrs. Ruth Steinbronn

Mrs. Darla Thorland Mrs Bea Tinderholt Mrs. Grace Torresdal

Mrs. Juletta Trygstad

With Warmest Season's Greetings to All Singers and Friends from the Norse Glee Club and Norse Glee Club Auxiliary Sioux Falls, S.D.

Theodore and Eunice Aanenson

Shane and Crystal Aman

Robert and Karel Amend

June BeVirt

Norin and Delores Blomberg

Marvin Buckneberg

Elwood Carlson

Doris Davidson

Noel and Jane Egan

Warren and Bonnie Eitreim

Eleanor Ericksen

Derald and Karen Espeland

Steven and Char Espeland

Joyce Farr

James Florence

Mark and CoCo Gronseth

David and Sonja Hanson

Helmer Haugland

Bonita Hoff

Kristi Hoff

Rodney Hoff

Joe Isakson

Lawrence and Violet Jensen

Joyce Johnson

Eugene and Barbara Johnson

Lee Johnson

Marlys Johnson

Robert and Dagmar Johnson

Robert and Betty Johnson

Roger and Karen Johnson

Palmer Karli

Gail and Diane Kristensen

Ordell and Doris Krogstad

Lyle Kroon

David and Bonnie Lien

Bernice Miller

Marge Munger

Marvin and Doris Nelson

Doris Nesthus

Arthur and Ruth Olsen

Clifford Olson

Philip and Evelyn Olson

Robert and Barbara Osborn

Howard and LouAnn Paulson

Kenneth and Vada Raanes

Lloyd and Fran Raanes

George and Judith Regan

Frances Sandager

Dorothy Severson

Milton and Elinor Steen

David and Betty Stene

George and Virginia Stensland

Elvin and Carol Thomsen

Robert and Margaret Tidemann

Wally and Lillian Wallenburg

Ordell and Madeline Winterton

Roger and Rhoda Wold

With Warmest Season's Greetings To All Singers & Friends from the Norwegian Glee Club & Glee Club Auxiliary

Ted Anderson Roger Arent Frank Berger Robert Berndt Erik Bruun Joseph Campion Jerry Dokka Charlie Engh Earl Evenstad Bjorn Hagen Clarence Hanson Jack Hauer Phil Heide Ron Hemstad Harald Huglen Einar Johansen Gudmund Julseth Darrell Kvasager

Biorn Lasserud Herb Nelson Robert G. Olson Robert O. Olson Mark Olson Bent Paulsen Carl Pedersen Robert Quenroe Leland Randall Gary Rust Kristen Rusten Wes Schultz Arnulf Skomsoyvåg Carsten Slostad, Director Dennis Sorheim Glenn Tollefsen Sverre Waagen

Glee Club Auxiliary

Karen Anderson Shirley Berger Joan Berndt Maggie Campion Shirley Engh Shirley Evenstad Ruth Feste Gerd Hagen Florence Hanson Sharlene Hauer Betty Hemstad Ruth Julseth

Anne Lise Lasserud

Dottie Lillestrand Jacke Olson Jo Ann Olson Anne Lise Paulsen Gladys Randall Susan Ronsen Joy Risse Alice Rust

Grady Watts

Loryce Sivertson, Accompanist

Mary Skomsoyvåg Vivian Strand Marian Tollefsen Alice Waagen

DEN NORSKE GLEE KLUBB I MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA



Seasons Greetings A Blessed Christmas And A Happy New Year

DAVID AND GAIL JUDISCH **DIRECTOR-IN-CHIEF**

NORWEGIAN SINGERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA INC.























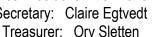






PACIFIC COAST NORWEGIAN SINGERS' ASSOCIATION

President: Phil Overlund Vice President: Ken Lake Secretary: Claire Egtvedt









PCNSA 2010 Sangerfest will be July 8, 9, 10 in Salem, Oregon

http:pcnsa.org/index.htm























May God, Who sent His Son into the world dwell in your heart now and forever.

Best wishes for peace and joy at Christmas and throughout the new Year

Donald and Barbara Berg NSAA Corresponding Secretary Editor-Publisher, Sanger-Hilsen



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og Godt Nyttår from

Richard and Penny Leake NSAA Recording Secretary NSAA Webmaster

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Best Wishes for a joyous, music filled Christmas Season VETERAN CHORUS

Bob Lillie, President Ronald Beck, Vice-President Larry L. Lubbert, Secretary-Treasurer Bernhard Gluth, Director

Season's Greetings Our Best Wishes For A Merry Christmas And A Happy New Year

Roger & Dene Amdahl
Ron & Janell Beck
Norm Braak
Don Cooper & Terry
Walter (dir.)
Bruce Duncan
Eileen Farnsworth
Winston Hill

Myron Larsen Rex & Jerry Livermore Wayne & Doris Mitchell Jerry & Karen Muchow John & Donna Nelson Ray & Bonnie Ode Eric Oines Gene Person Kirk Preheim
John & Joan Rasmusson
Bob & Arlene Stenberg
Jim Stoekmann
Jake Van Denhul
Deanna (Accompanist) &
Joel Wehrspann
Don & Flora Zweep

1890 Minnehaha Mandskor2009 and Auxiliary

EDVARD GRIEG CHORUS Madison WI

The Chorus continued its fall activities with concerts for the Sons of Norway Lodge at St. John's Lutheran Church in Richland Center on October 18 and the annual Lakeview Lutheran Church Lutefisk Dinner in Madison on November 6. Both events featured excellent Norwegian fare!

We continued our preparation for Sangerfest 2010 by a first reading of all of the songs on the concert program. Several of the songs were familiar to the veteran members of the Chorus but were both new and challenging for our newer members.

Our celebration of the Christmas season began on December 8 with a concert at Prairie Park Senior Apartments, followed by our Grieg Yulefest at Idun Lodge on December 15. This annual holiday potluck attended by members, spouses and guests included great food, a few new Ole and Lena jokes from Dwayne Berg, lots of Christmas carols and good fellowship.

Sangerfest 2010 news includes a note of appreciation to all of the choruses for their responses to our requests for information and pictures. Based on the replies, we are estimating that 225 singers will join us in Madison for Sangerfest 2010.

Al Swain. Chair of Veterans' activities. has asked that we communicate that the Veterans' Brunch (breakfast buffet) will cost approximately \$20 per person, but that the Edvard Grieg Chorus subsidize one-half of the cost. The remaining \$10 will be collected at the door. Al guarantees, however, that the Concourse brunch is delicious and includes seasonal fruit, assorted pastries, fruit yogurts with granola, hot oatmeal, scrambled eggs and cheese, roasted potatoes, bacon sausage, orange/apple/cranberry juices, coffee, tea and hot chocolate. You won't want to miss this one!

The Chorus wishes all of our fellow singers and their families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming you to Madison in June for Sangerfest 2010.

Dick Johnston, Corr. Sec.

LUREN HISTORY (Continued from March-April 2009)

Carlo Sperati and Emma (Hoffoss) were married in First Lutheran Church in Decorah on Aug. 25, 1891, and left soon thereafter probably by train for the West Coast.

Life in the parish was not easy. Many of the people were poor, so salary was irregular; the congregation was a "home mission" with support by the Minnesota District of the Norwegian Synod., whose payments did not always arrive on time. Gifts in kind were sometimes received.

Nor did it help that Rev. Sperati was not a gifted preacher nor profound scholar,, although he was a caring pastor to his flocks.

Fortunately, he found opportunity to pursue his love of music. A prominent citizen of the Bellingham community led the way in organizing an oratorio club, which decided to learn and perform Haydn's *The Creation*. What Sperati's role was is unknown.

Rev.Sperati served Our Savior's con-

gregation from 1891-94 (one source indicates 91-97.) and in Tacoma until

1905. He became an instructor in music at Pacific Lutheran Academy (later to become Pacific Lutheran College and now PLU) from 1894-95.

Several of Sperati's classmates from Seminary, some of whom had also been at Luther College, were also sent into this Pacific Coast mission field.

Although this is conjecture on the part of the writer, it seems very likely that these men were also familiar with another artist with Luther College roots. Herbjorn Gausta became a famous painter, including many altar paintings for churches. A number of these are to be found or have been in various church buildings on the West Coast, particularly in those of Norwegian Synod background. It is quite probable that this happened due to the recommendations of Sperati and others who knew Gausta.

What role Sperati played in the formation of the various male choruses on the West Coast is not entirely clear. His position on the faculty of the young Pacific Lutheran school would be very influential. When the PCNSA was organized on Aug. 26,1902, Sperati was elected Director-in-Chief, a position he would occupy through 1915, even though he moved to Decorah and Luther College in 1905. Apparently he went back and forth by train to fulfill his directing duties, after his move to Decorah.

When the first PCNSA Sangerfest was held in Everett WA in 1903, Carlo Sperati was its director. As the picture on the cover of the July-August 2009 issue shows, the group was a small one, but in 1904, in Seattle, there were 175 singers, and in 1905, in Portland OR, the audience was 3000!

Thus, the history of PCNSA ties in, though indirectly with the history of Luren by way of Rev. Carlo Sperati.

Early in 1905 Sperati was called to be Professor of Music and Religion at Luther College. He was installed on March 29th and gave his first concert on March 31st.

Needless to say, once Sperati got back to Decorah, Luren was soon to call on him. Luren had not been entirely dormant. In 1893 a good number of singers went to the World's Fair in Chicago, supported financially by Decorah businessmen for the trip. The trip was a triumph, but the fallout afterwards was almost a disaster.

Resignations that fall cut the number of members to five. But those five were outstanding singers, as seen when they went to Omaha for the 1896 Sangerfest of the Northwestern Scandinavian Singers Association of America (NSSAA). When what we now call the Parade of Choruses was held, each group was to sing but one However, the popular number. demand of the audience compelled the powers that be to permit an encore by that Luren quintet. Their praises were sung by newspapers of various ethnic backgrounds.

Luren's quintet suffered a severe loss on April 18, 1900, when its very popular and talented first tenor Sigurd Halvorson died. That loss spurred some other men to join or rejoin and within a month so it soon became an octet. At Thanksgiving time, 11 men left Decorah for Spring Grove by wagons (3!), well supplied with liquid refreshment or tonic for their voices. The occasion was apparently the dedication of Spring Grove's new opera house.

This is how Dr. John Christianson described the event in his unpublished history of Luren. "Early in the forenoon of Thanksgiving day that year (1900), three large wagons rumbled out of Decorah on the northward road bearing the eleven active members of Luren...So that the throats of the singers would not suffer in the late autumn cold, Druggist Ouandahl had 'provided each wagon with two kinds of medicine...the one to be taken two spoonsful every third mile, and with the other the throat should be rinsed every half hour. These prescriptions were followed faithfully'. After five pleasant hours on the road, the three wagons rumbled into Spring Grove and went directly to the hotel...Luren was really in good voice for the concert, thanks to the medicine on the journey."

Even before Sperati took over, Luren was travelling, a precursor of the tours of more recent years. They took the train to Sangerfest in Sioux Falls in 1902, and again were the only chorus to have an encore. In 1906 they took the much shorter trip to Sangerfest in LaCrosse, also by train.

Other men's choruses formed in the Winneshiek County area during those years. Laerken (The Lark) from Calmar, Gauken (The Cuckoo) from Glenwood Township, Grieg from Nordness, and Luren could thus join in county-wide mini-sangerfests, which were similar in many ways to the choral union concerts sponsored by the Luther Leagues. In fact, many of the same singers were involved in both groups, except the choral unions were for both men and women.

To be continued.)

Fra Matteus' evangelium 2. Kapitel

Da Jesus var født I Betlehem I Judea, I kong Herodes' dager, se, da kon nogen vismenn fra Østen og kommer for å tilbede ham.

Hvor er den jødenes konge som nu er født? Vi har sett hans stjerne I Østen of er kommet for å tilbede ham

Men da kong Herodes hørte det, blev han forferdet, og hele Jerusalem med ham.

Og han sammenkalte alle ypperstenprestene og de skriftærde blandt folket og spurte dem hvor Messias skulde fødes.

Da se til haj: I Betlehem I Judea; for så er skrevet med profeten.

Og du Betlehem I Juda land, du er ingenlunde den ringeste blandt høvdingene I Juda; for fra dig skal ungå en høvding som skal være hyrde for mitt folk Israel.

Da kalte Herodes hemmelig vismennene til sig og spurte dem nøie om tiden da stjernen hadde vist sig;

Og han sendte dem til Betlehem og sa: Gå og spør nøie om barnet; og når I har funnet det, da si mig til, forat også jeg kankomme og tilbede det.

Da de hadde hørt kongens ord, drog de avsted; og se, stjernen som de hadde sett i Østen,gikk foran dem, inntil den kom of blev stående over det sted hvor barnet var.

Og da de så stjerne, blev de over all måte glade.

Og de gikk I huset og så barnet med Maria, dets mor, og de falt ned og tilbad det, og oplot sine gjemmer og bar frem gavet til det: gull og røkelse og myrra.

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

ILLINOIS CHICAGO

Biornson 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.

Normennenes 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, thor!jell@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@

IOWA SIOUX CITY

Nordic Male Chorus

CS.COM Director: (vacant).

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, OA 51106 ((712) 258-7445 gregors5@juno.com; Director: Charles Schuett, 5040 Stone Ave., Sioux City, IA 51106, tel. 276-2328, off. tel. (612)scschuett@gateway.net.

DECORAH

Luren Singing Society

Rehearsal: Every Monday night, 7:30 p.m. at Thomas Roberts High School. President: Dan Huebner; 2551 Eastwood Rd, Decorah IA 52101, (563) 382-1814 westhue@aol.com. Corresponding Secretary: Donald L. Berg, 407 Leif Erikson Drive, Decorah, IA 52101-1038, tel. (563) 382-5727; Director: Dr. David Judisch, 814 Fifth Ave., Decorah, IA 52101, tel. (563) 382-9222 judiscda@luther.edu.

MINNESOTA MINNEAPOLIS

Nordkap Male Chorus

Rehearsal: Each Monday, 7:00 p.m., at Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church, 53rd & Chicago Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN. President: Duane Olson, 9850 Lyndale Ave. S. Apt.57, Bloomington MN 55420-5295; Corresponding Secretary: Wendell Frerichs, 1776 Chatsworth St., Roseville MN 55113-6561 (651) 489-8947; Director: Carsten Slostad, 1065 Portland Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104-7011; tel. (651) 291-8639.

Norwegian Glee Club

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

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 evers11111@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, beckpardox1 @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: 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 98155, (206)Park. WA 362-5611. kennethlake@comcast.net; Secretary: Claire Egtvedt, 5904 96th St SW, Mukilteo WA 98275 (425) 347-4944 chegtvedt@comcast.net; Treasurer: Orv Sletten, 3087 Oakcrest Dr NW, Salem, OR 97304, tel. (503) 581-7099, orvviv44@comcast.net ; Trustees: California: Borre Ulrichsen, 715 Cascade Ct, Walnut Creek CA 94598, (415) 205-8064, borre@ulrichsen.net; Oregon -Roger Ness, 3079 Stapp Dr, Eugene, OR 97408, tel. (541) 683-3359, rdpiness@juno.com; Washington: Pete Petersen, 713 E 7th Ellensburg WA 98926, (509) 607-9406 o.petersen@gmail.com. Trustee at Large: Mark Agerter, 3850 Gilham Rd, Eugene, OR, 97408, (541)-685-0115, Agerter@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, meyersfbe@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 Blaafladt, 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 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 eveing, 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 PI. 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.

POULSBO

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 PI., Lake Forest Park WI 98155, (206) 362-5611, kennethlake@ comcast.net. Director: Dr. Alf Knudsen, 1513 Debrelon 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 Del 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,



SANGER-HILSEN

Sod Jul to all!!

See you at Sangerfest!



NSAA President Jon Lewis