

VOLUME 103, NO. 6

DECORAH, IA

Nov.-Dec. 2013



Herb Nelson shows impressive fish for the lutefisk dinner to Rich Leake.



Mandskor trip, Minneapolis view.



Norwegian Glee Club sings at their lutefisk dinner in Minneapolis.



Tour guide speaks to Mandskor group.



Glee Club Christmas Dinner singers.



Mandskor visits Swede Hollow, St.Paul.

NORWEGIAN GLEE CLUB Minneapolis MN

Practices now are totally focused on our traditional Nordic Julekonsert, which will be Sunday, Dec. 8th, at 2 p.m. at Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church. Director Carsten has put together a wonderful program that will feature, in addition to Norwegian Glee Club, the Mindekirken Choir and Lucia Singers, the American Swedish Institute Male Chorus, the ASI Cloudberries, and the Pauline Fielde Daughters of Norway Damekor.

Obviously, this will be the premier event in the Cities that weekend. One of the special massed choral selections will be *Lord Our God (Herre Gud)* with a talented saxophonist adding to the beauty of the song. We look forward to that and, of course, we will be singing traditional Christmas songs, both English and Norwegian.

President Nelson read a beautiful õThank Youö from the family of Helge Norby, for our participation in Helge& Memorial Service and with it a generous gift of Memorial money that was designated to the Glee Club. Helge continued to be a big supporter of the Glee Club after he no longer sang with us.

Our Cheer Chairman, Phil Heide, brought good news to practice this week. After some very worrisome health problems, Clarence Hanson and Bob Berndt are both in recovery mode. The Christmas season will be more enjoyable for them.

Can you imagine a thousand folks getting up in the dark and driving to the Double Tree Hotel in Bloomington to be seated at 6:30 a.m. for breakfast? Thatøs what will happen at the Nordic American Thanksgiving Breakfast, and it has happened every year for many years.

Larry Hauge, who died this past organized and built this tradition. This year the torch passed to Gary Gandrud, the Norwegian Counsel. He arranged for the 72 voice St. Olaf College Choir to sing at the event, as well as having Don Shelby as MC, plus Dr. David Anderson, President of St. Olaf College, Brad Hewitt. President of Thrivent Financial. and Rev. Ann Svennungsen, Bishop of the Minneapolis Area Synod ELCA, speaking about Family, Freedom and Faith.

The funds raised at this year sevent will go to military families in need and to area Food Shelves. What a wonderful way to celebrate Thanksgiving. (Continued page 5)



God Jul og Godt Nyttår fra

Herb Nelson, President Norwegian Singers Association of America

With Warmest Season's Greetings To All Singers & Friends from your Sangerfest 2014 Host Chorus

Ted Anderson Bjorn Lasserud Andrew Anderson Herb Nelson Norman Arlandson Duane Olson Leonard Baltus Robert G. Olson Louis Becker Robert O. Olson Frank Berger Mark Olson Robert Berndt Bent Paulsen Erik Bruun Carl Pedersen Joseph Campion Philip Peterson Jerry Dokka Leland Randall Connely Dyrud Julian Ronning Charlie Engh Gary Rust Earl Evenstad Kristen Rusten Joe Grodahl Wes Schultz Bjorn Hagen Arne Selbyg Clarence Hanson Carsten Slostad, Director Jack Hauer

Jack HauerJames SlostadPhil HeidePaul SlostadRon HemstadFoster SolemHarald HuglenDennis SorheimEinar JohansenPaul ThorsonGudmund JulsethSverre Waagen

Glee Club Auxiliary

Karen Anderson Dawn McCarthy Shirley Berger Jackie Olson Maggie Campion Jo Ann Olson Shirley Engh Anne Lise Paulsen Shirley Evenstad Eileen Ronning Gerd Hagen Susan Ronsen Florence Hanson Beth Rust Sharlene Hauer Gayle Selbyg Betty Hemstad Mary Skomsoyvåg Anne Lise Lasserud Vivian Strand Martha Mutch Alice Waagen

> DEN NORSKE GLEE CLUB AV MINNEAPOLIS

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OFFICERS OF NSAA

President: Herbert Nelson, 620 Oak St W, Stillwater MN 55082-5624 (651)587-4819 herbert.nelson@comcast.net

Vice President at Large: Thor Fjell, 1041 W. Ogden Ave, #118, Naperville, IL 60563; cell (630) 479-4233,

thorfjell@comcast.net

Recording Secretary: Richard Leake, 703 Valley View Dr., Decorah, IA (563) 382-3796 leakeric@luther.edu

Corresponding Secretary: Donald Berg, 407 Leif Erikson Dr, Decorah, IA 52101 (563)382-5727

Treasurer: Francis Peterson, 710 Ridge Road, Decorah IA 52101 (563)382-4504 fpmp@MCHSI.com

Grand Marshal: James Slostad, 1065 Portland Ave, St. Paul MN 55104-7011 (952)953-9264 jim27ps@gmail.com

Assistant Grand Marshal: Frank Potempa, 1788 W. Sherwood Road, Des Plaines, IL 60016 (847) 296-2568 fcpotempa@sbcglobal.net

Director-in-Chief: Dr. David E. Judisch, Decorah, IA 814 Fifth Ave., Decorah IA 52101E-mail: judiscda@luther.edu Assistant Director: Carsten Slostad,

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

carstonian@hotmail.com

Past President: Roger Stavnem, 1140 Santa Anita Dr, Hanover Park, IL 60133-5542

(630)830-2971 lstavnem@sd13.org

NSAA STATE VICE-PRESIDENTS

Illinois: Frank Potempa, 1788 W. Sherwood Road, Des Plaines, IL 60016 (847) 296-2568 fcpotempa@sbcglobal.net

Iowa: Ed Stone, 2009 3rd Ave, So. Sioux City NB 68776 (402)494-2956 jeston7@longlines.com

Minnesota: Norman Arlandson, 4540 Columbus Ave, Minneapolis MN 55407-3526 (612)822-4216 normanarlandson@gmail.com

South Dakota: Curt Hepner, 321 N. Lincoln St., Canton SD 57013-1721 (605)764-2914 mycurt67@gmail.com

Wisconsin: Charles Morkri, 7567
Pioneer Place, Verona, WI 53593
(608) 833-3732
nordic@tds.net

VETERAN CHORUS OFFICERS

President: Ronald Beck, 28206 465th Ave., Lennox, SD 57039 (605) 647-2851, beckparadoxr@speednet.com

Vice President Robert Lillie, 410
Pleasant Hill Dr., Decorah IA 52101
(563)382-5087 lillierb@salamander.com
Secretary-Treasurer: Larry Lubbert,
2440 Cedar Valley Rd., Decorah IA (563)

382-8053 <u>lubbert@mchsi.com</u>

Marshal: Bjørn Lasserud, 7215 Knox Ave S, Richfield MN 55423-2930 (612)869-2030

Director: Bernhard Gluth, 103 Grove, P.O. Box 84, Ft. Atkinson IA, 52144, (563)534-3079 bcgluth@acegroup.cc

DEADLINE FOR JAN.-FEB. ISSUE

Jan. 20, 2014.

Hats off to the St. Olaf Choir, who boarded a bus before 5 a.m. in Northfield to get to the hotel.

The December 2013 issue of *Viking* Sons of Norway magazine was of particular interest to us, featuring two articles of note. One concerned *aquavit* and its evolvement into many forms and flavors which I, being a person of extreme moderation, will never experience. But it will be of interest to many who include that popular Scandinavian beverage as part of the holidays.

Of greater importance in the issue is a full-page of another tribute and recognition accorded the very talented *rosemaler*, Shirley Evenstad. As a teacher she has generously shared her skill with hundreds of interested students, and her work is spread across the country. The Glee Club is especially proud of this busy, energetic lady, who is a contributor and worker on Auxiliary activities of the Club, including our lutefisk dinners, where she supplements the great work of husband Earl, who handles the ticket sales.



Shirley Evenstad

Still worth a smile: Ole and Lena were getting on in years. Ole was 92

and Lena 89. One evening they were sitting on the porch. Ole leaned over and patted Lena on the knee. õLena, vat ever happened tew our sex relations?ö he asked. õVell, Ole, I yust donøt know,ö replied Lena, õI donøt tink ve even got a Christmas card from them last year.ö



Charles Engh, Corr. Sec.

LUREN SINGING SOCIETY Decorah IA

We were privileged to be invited by Nordlys (Northern Lights), a Ladies Chorus initiated by several members of the Luren Auxiliary in conjunction with our hosting of Sangerfest in 1996, to be their guest chorus Sunday, Nov. 24th, at Decorah Lutheran Church. With the theme õA Song for Every Season,ö they sang six numbers, we sang five, they sang four more, and we combined on two, õHomeward Boundö and õWe Rise Again.ö Of their current 48 members, eight have Luren connections. were pleasantly crowded for those two finale numbers, then treated to cookies and bars and beverages for a kind of Afterglow. It worth doing again.

We begin our annual caroling on the 8th in Vesterheim shiproom, then move on to three area nursing homes, and conclude the day with a party, hosted by our directors, with a change of location due to a funeral scheduled for Good Shepherd Lutheran. We'll be back at Decorah Lutheran for the party.

The 15th of December we travel out of town to Caledonia for our concert at St. Maryøs Church. This is a fine venue with outstanding acoustics. We were there a few years ago for the same event.

If we are not already sung out, some of us will take part in *Messiah*, either at West Union that evening or at Decorah Lutheran the following Wed-nesday, Dec. 18th. Then, we late a welcome break until Jan. 27th.

Kurt Anfinson and John Nelson both landed in Rochester for heart and carotid problems at almost the same days. Both are home, recovering nicely.

New Member Profile



Robert Smedsrud as born on a farm near Harmony MN, the third of six children (4 girls, 2 boys). After High School graduation at Harmony, he attended VoTech at Winona in Farm Operations and Management, which landed him with Fleet Farm Stores. He also drove bus for Hawkeye Stages for 28 years.

Robert sang in High School choir and two musicals, as well as church choir.

Robert is married to Rebecca (Swehla), who is a chiropractor here in Decorah, and now works for her part time in the office. They have one daughter and two sons.

He was invited to Luren by Jim Lage. He says he had never given it a thought to sing with us, but enjoys it and considers us a good bunch of guys. He especially appreciates Dave as director.

More new members are introduced on page 21.



Don Berg, Corr. Sec.



Best Wishes for a joyous, music filled Christmas Season

VETERAN CHORUS

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

God Jul og Godt Nyttar 2013



We wish our fellow singers and their families peace, prosperity, goodwill and good health!

From the Edvard Grieg Chorus Madison, WI

Tom Beatty Dick Johnston Dwayne Berg Paul Larson Steve Christenson Jonathan Lewis David Druckenbrod Richard Lornson Phil Dvbdahl Tom Martin-Erickson **Paul Eastwood Chuck Morkri** Mark Everson **Roger Morris David Nelson Hans Floan Steve Fortney Jack Nelson Carolyn Fuerst Russ Nelson** Brian Gjermo **Clyde Nyhus** Jorgen Goderstad **Phil Paulson** Jim Griffin Jim Pettersen Jon Grinde **Doug Pfundheller** Paul Haakenson **David Selje** Jim Hanson Dean Selje **Norm Sime Tony Hartmann Gary Hendrickson** Jim Svanoe **Orin Hermundstad** Linda Svanoe **David Houser** Al Swain **Peter Elling Johnson** Al Wahl **Myron Wilcox**

EDVARD GRIEG CHORUS Madison, WI

It is hard to believe, but the Holiday Season is upon us again and that means the Chorus has shifted its attention from Sangerfest preparation to Christmas performances.

On December 3 the Chorus will perform at Heritage Senior Living in Middleton, a suburb of Madison. The Heritage is a comprehensive facility that includes independent living apartments and assisted living and memory care units. The Heritage was recently opened, and this will be the Chorusø first opportunity to perform for the residents. We will begin the concert with several songs from our repertoire and then turn to Christmas pieces including O jul, med din gl\æde, Paa laaven sitter nissen, Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming, Her kommer dine arme sma, Jeg er saa glad, and Det kimer nu til julefest. We will then ask the residents to join us in a Christmas carol sing-along, and we will end the performance with Glade jul/Silent Night.

A week later on December 10 we will perform essentially the same concert for residents of Prairie Park Senior Apartments in Madison. We perform for these residents virtually every year, but on more than one occasion have had to cancel due to the seasonøs first snowstorm. We anticipate that after both concerts we will be treated to great refreshments including Christmas cookies and coffee.

We will wrap up the month with our annual Chorus Christmas potluck at Idun Lodge on December 17. Chorus members and their spouses will be decked out in colorful Norwegian sweaters, and we will enjoy an assortment of Scandanavian foods and deserts. Various Chorus members will perform, and as always, Dwayne Berg will attempt to tell us as many new Norwegian jokes as he is able to find.

Members of the Edvard Grieg Chorus wish our fellow singers and their families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you all at Sangerfest 2014.

Dick Johnston, Corr. Sec.

Holiday Greetings From the Sioux Valley Singers Association

Jul Hilsen fra
Minnehaha Mandskor Sioux Falls
Norse Glee Club Sioux Falls
Grieg Male Chorus Canton
Nordic Male Chorus Sioux City

Ed Stone, President
David Lien, Vice President
Ronald Beck, Secretary
David Stene, Treasurer
Terry Walter, Lyle Kroon,
Directors

BJORNSON MALE CHORUS

and the

BJORNSON LADIES AUXILIARY



WISH YOU A

MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND A

HAPPY NEW YEAR

LEVE SANGEN

Edwin Kramer, Director

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

Theodore Aanenson

Shane and Crystal Aman

Robert and Karel Amend

Samuel Ausdemore

Delores Blomberg

Carol Cisnero

Noel and Jane Egan

Warren Eitreim

Derald and Karen Espeland

Steven and Char Espeland

Joyce Farr

James Florence

David and Sonja Hanson

Elmer and Evelyn Haugen

Helmer Haugland

Bonita Hoff

Kristi Hoff

Rodney Hoff

Joe Isakson

Joyce Johnson

Eugene Johnson

Marlys Johnson

Dagmar Johnson

Robert and Betty Johnson

Roger and Karen Johnson

Gail and Diane Kristensen

Ordell and Doris Krogstad

Lyle Kroon

David and Bonnie Lien

Marge Munger

Marvin and Doris Nelson

Arthur and Ruth Olsen

Clifford Olson

Philip Olson

Howard and LouAnn Paulson

George and Judith Regan

Frances Sandager

Dorothy Severson

Elinor Steen

David and Betty Stene

George and Virginia Stensland

Elvin and Carol Thomsen

Robert and Margaret Tidemann

Roger and Rhoda Wold

MINNEHAHA MANDSKOR Sioux Falls, SD

The not-so-competent Corresponding Secretary for the Minnehaha Mandskor overlooked the deadline for the September-October issue of Sanger Hilsen. So far he has not been threatened with expulsion, but will be allowed to continue, providing that he promises to be more observant of deadlines in the future.

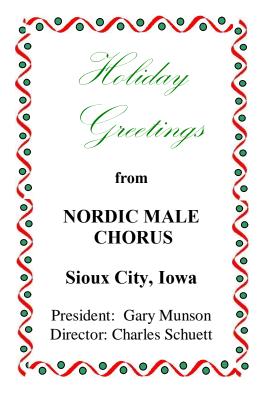
Our chislic-kuchen booth at the Sioux Empire Fair was well-received by the fairgoers again this year. Thanks to the significant effort put forth by President Marlan Velgersdyk and Don Cooper, as well as excellent cooperation from our members and significant others who dutifully took their turns working, the outing was very successful financially and in every other way. Sixteen hundred DOZEN sticks of chislic were sold! The Board has decided we should do a repeat in 2014.

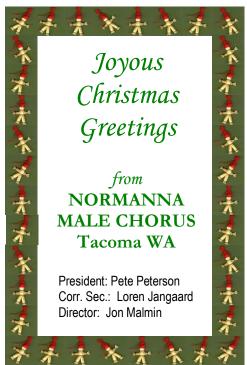
Since the last Sanger Hilsen article (July-August), we have had the good fortune to welcome a few new singersí Derrick McKenna (Tenor I, 6-13), Tony Leggett (Tenor I, 7-13), Doug Van Roekel (Tenor I, 9-13), Dana Van Roekel (Tenor I, 9-13).



Derrick McKenna and wife Stephanie with new daughter Harper Grace.

Ty Henschel, who was with us for a short time, dropped out because of





work demands. The other voices (Tenor II, Bass I, and Bass II) are struggling with making themselves heard these days.

September and October rehearsals were devoted mainly to preparing for a recording session held on November 4 at the Brandon Lutheran Church. We are grateful to the church for allowing us to use their facilities, and Ray Ode for making Sound technicians arrangements. were Mike Jackson. from Minneapolis, and Anita Preheim, wife of Kirk Preheim, our late President. Their expertise was an extremely important factor in producing our CD.



Mandskor recording night.

On October 5, the Mandskor sang for the funeral of Lloyd Erickson at First Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls. Lloyd was the brother-in-law of Don Cooper and Terry Walter, our director.

At the annual business meeting on October 14, officers for the coming year were chosen, including Marlan Velgersdyk, President; Norm Braak, Vice President; Roger Amdahl, Treasurer: Ray Ode, Assistant Treasurer; John Rasmusson, Secretary and Corresponding Secretary; Larry Luinenburg and Larry Meyerink, Co-Librarians; Jerry Muchow, Assistant Librarian; Ron Beck and Bob Viet, Co-Marshals. New Board members

Merry Christmas
and
Good Wishes
in the
New Year
from the
Grieg Male Chorus
and Auxiliary
Canton, South Dakota

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Francis Peterson

NSAA Treasurer

Happy New Year

D

God Jul

God Jul
og
Godt Nyttår
from
Richard and Penny Leake
NSAA Recording Secretary
NSAA Webmaster

are Ron Beck and Larry Meyerink, for three year terms.

On the weekend of October 26-27, a number of Chorus members, wives, girlfriends, and a few other non-members traveled to Minneapolis for what has become an annual outing. On Saturday afternoon the group visited the Historic Wabasha Street Caves, and went on the St. Paul Gangster Tour.

A buffet dinner was enjoyed at the Kelly Inn, followed by the production at the Plymouth Playhouse, õThe Last (Potluck) Supper.ö The last event was to sing at Grace Lutheran Church, where Dr. Olaf Malmin (formerly at Augustana College in Sioux Falls) is Director of Music. Back to Sioux Falls in the afternoon with a lunch stop at Perkins in Albert Lea.



Dr. Malmin conducts the Mandskor at Grace Lutheran Church, St. Paul MN.

As we have for the past several years, we participated with four other choruses in the Festival of Menøs Voices on November 3 at the OøGorman Lorang Theater. This annual event is a benefit for the Banquetøs SOS project, which supplies school supplies for children in need.

We will sing at the birthday celebration for our long time member, John Nelson, on Saturday, November 16, at Our Saviorøs Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls.

On Thursday, November 21, we are scheduled for a concert at First Christian Reformed Church in Sioux Falls, where our member, Larry Luinenburg, belongs.

Bob and Arlene Stenbergos daughters (Candace, Roxanne, and Sheryl) have given a Kawai grand piano to Bob and Arleneos church, the Lutheran Church of Dell Rapids, in their memory. It will be dedicated on November 24, and we have been asked to sing. Bob and Arlene were mainstays of the Mandskor for over 50 years. They both passed away early this year.

The Christmas Party will again take place at the Sioux Valley Energy building in Brandon on December 2. Thank you to Ray and Bonnie Ode for making the arrangements.

Our numbers will be down by a few from now through sometime in the spring. Roger Amdahl and Jerry Muchow have departed for Mesa, Arizona, leaving town just before the snowstorm of November 5.

This about wraps it up for now. Respectfully submitted,



John Rasmusson, Corr. Sec.

God Jul

NORSE GLEE CLUB Sioux Falls SD

Again, by the time this article is published, several notable events (singing and otherwise) will have already taken place. On October 28th, we performed at the Washington Crossing Retirement home, here in Sioux Falls, to a gathering of about 50 residents. Among the dozen songs we offered were several of Norwegian õstandards.ö We were well received, and a social hour followed. Also, we used this occasion as a final warm-up for the four pieces we would perform the following Sunday at the õFestival of Menøs Voices.ö



Festival of Menøs Voices event.

On Sunday November 3rd then, we did sing at the õFestival.ö Each of the five choruses presented its three or four numbers, and then the massed chorus of about 125 voices closed the event with Roy Ringwaldøs arrangement of õGod Bless America.ö Reportedly, donations on the order of \$8,000 were collected by õThe Banquetö that day to enable back-pack purchases for needy children.

Following the õFestival,ö our musical focus quickly shifted to holiday selections as we had several singing opportunities already booked. We have four engagements scheduled for December. Each of these is an annual revisit featuring holiday music

appropriate for this time of year. On Monday evening, December 2nd, we will be at the Avera Prince of Peace Retirement Community.

Then, on Sunday afternoon, December 15th, we will sing at õTouchmark-at-all-Saintsö retirement community. The following evening, Monday, December 16th, we will perform at the Good Samaritan Village.

Finally, we will perform at the Jameson Annex of the State Penitentiary as part of their worship service on Thursday evening, December 19th.

Scheduling things has been a bit of a challenge for us this year because of

our õSantaøsö other obligations. He has completed, or has blocked out yet, some 30 visits in that role of other than being our director. He reminded us last rehearsal that

the 24th, of course, is his round-theworld tour date.

Shifting away from music õnewsö for a moment, several other items are worth noting. First, on Monday, November 4th, we held a dinner celebrating our 85th anniversary since the clubøs formation in 1928. We used the occasion specifically to invite potential candidates for dinner and to have a brief rehearsal.

At the dinner we recognized two individuals, and presented õlifetime achievementö awards to them for being members for 50 years. Ted Aannenson (1st Tenor) and Robert L. Johnson (Bass) were the recipients of the awards. We have and have had a number of Robert Johnson in the club over time, so you should know

this one responds to õUncle Torvaldö as well. (2) On Monday, November 11th, we held our monthly and annual business meetings. New officers were elected. Steve Espeland will stay on for another year as President.

Second, I am saddened to report the passing away of three key individuals from within our ranks. All three had been active in support of the glee club for many years but succumbed following lengthy illnesses.

MILTON STEEN (1918-2013) died on October 28th. He and his wife, Elinor, just days earlier had marked their 71st wedding anniversary. Milt sang in the Bass section, served as President for two years, was on the audit committee repeatedly, and led the planning and conduct of our annual Lutefisk suppers.

LAWRENCE JENSEN (1924-2013) died on November 5th. Lawrence sang 2nd Tenor, and continued to share his gift of music for many years. He and Violet had recently celebrated their 66th anniversary.

Evelyn Olson (1930-2013) died on November 14th. She was an active member of our Auxiliary, and was the wife of Phil Olson, one of our Basses. We shall miss their influence and their contributions greatly, and we extend to their families our sincerest condolences.

To perhaps close on a bit more cheerful note, on Monday, December 9th, we will be holding our annual Christmas party. Again, this year õSantaö will be challenging us with holiday quizzes of secular and biblical significance. Some of us have been studying up, having been õembarrassedö in previous years.



Gail Kristensen, Corr. Secy.

NORDIC MALE CHORUS Sioux City IA

With Merry Christmas music echoing from Yuletide visits to six care centers in Sioux City by the Nordics, their spouses and others, a holiday pause has set in before the Chorus takes up Sangerfest rehearsals in the New Year.

In the void of immediate programming, it provides opportunity to pen a few words about the coming together of male voices for the enjoyment of song and fellowship.

There is a long history of men singing as one, with male group membership, in particular, arising in Europe and America from the 19th Century until the present.

Menøs singing organizations have been an important part of Norwegian culture for centuries, and our American songsters have followed closely in Sangerfest with all types of music including that of Scandinavia. Itøs a harmonious heritage!

õWhat did Santa Claus say to all the toys on Christmas Eve?ö õOK, everybody, time to hit the sack!ö



Bob Hansen, Corr. Sec.



Seasons Greetings A Blessed Christmas And A Happy New Year

DAVID AND GAIL JUDISCH
DIRECTOR-IN-CHIEF

NORWEGIAN SINGERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA INC.



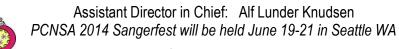


God Jul & Godt Nytt År

Normennenes Singing Society

WWW.NORWAYSINGS.ORG Organized October 30, 1870





http:pcnsa.org



The angels rejoice at the birth of the Savior

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



Bengt & Lotta angel



Luren Singing Society

Decorah, IA

Founded March 17, 1868

We the members of the Luren Singing Society family wish one and all fellowsingers 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.

Dan and Kari Alstad David H. Andreae Kurt Anfinson

Fred and Barbara Arnold Jerry and JoAnn Aulwes Dennis and Doris Barnaal Donald and Barbara Berg

Wayne Bicknese

Dick and Gladys Biehl Richard and Louann Bjorlo

John and Susan Boehm Ford and Marjorie Brevig Roger and Gale Buhr Tom and Connie Buresh Dave and Brenda Carlson

Harvin õHubö and Joyce Christen Andy and Nicole Darrington

Andy and Candace Erickson Merlyn and Shirley Finley Dean and Ellen Fisher Mike and Pat Fitzgerald

Mike and Pat Fitzgerald Ron and Karen Fretheim Bill and Karen Fried James and Ruth Glesne Rick and Kathy Gloede Bernhard and Carol Gluth James and Karen Gray

Lee Grippen
Dean and LaRue Hagen
Richard S. Hanson
Loren and Gisela Hartley
David and Lynn Hinz
Sophia Huang, Accompanist

Dan Huebner

Jim and Marge Iversen LeRoy and Jean Iverson Glen and Julie Jensson Gordon and Marian Jensson David and Gail Judisch

Todd Krueger Jim and Arlene Lage Larry Landsgard

Kenneth Larson Richard and Penny Leake E.W. ŏEdö Lechtenberg Robert and Sharon Lillie Mic and Linda Martin Larry and Doris Lubbert Larry and LaVonne Monson John P. and Arlene Nelson Mike and JoAnn Noack Phil and Ginny Olson Carl and Sue Peterson Francis and Marilyn Peterson Peter and Pat Peterson Colin and Jennifer Pickett Ardwin and Edna Reicks Arthur and Janice Roseland Uwe Rudolf and Ruth Caldwell Tim and Jane Samuelson

Randy Schmidt Carlton Shaw

Robert and Rebecca Smedsrud

Frank Snell

Eugene and Sandra Somdahl

Stewart Storlie

Jerrold and Kathryn Tesmer

Ralph Van Fossen

James and Laurel Womeldorf Mrs. Minerva Aaker Mrs. Marjorie Amundson Mrs. Gloria Carpenter Mrs. Iona Crawford Mrs. Lois Estrem Mrs. Jean Forde

Mrs. Jean Forde
Mrs. Bette Greedy
Mrs. Eloise Hoff
Mrs. Marjorie Hove
Mrs. Jenine Jordahl
Mrs. Haldis Kaasa
Mrs. Elsie Kittleson
Mrs. Marie Krambeer

Mrs. Ethel Kvammen Mrs. Betty Nelson Mrs. Colleen Peterson Mrs. Carmen Sunde Mrs. Ruth Steinbronn Mrs. Darla Thorland Mrs. Bea Tinderholt Mrs. Grace Torresdal Carrol Anderson Paul and Carol Hasvold

Gerald and Elaine Johnson Kermit and Nora Hendrickson Lawrence and Dorothy Judisch Ken and Mary Timmerman Clayton and Harriet Wangsness

NORMENNENES SINGING SOCIETY Chicago IL

On Friday, Dec. 6th, our chorus had its annual Christmas party. We were at the Norwood Crossing, formerly known as the Norwegian Home for the Elderly in the Norwood Park area of Chicago. What made this so nice is that they have a beautifully Norwegian-decorated room, which added to a wonderful evening.

The Chorus performed a few selections before dinner was served. We sang *Deilig er Den Himmel Blå*, *Jeg er så glad*, and *Winter Song*.

After dinner, we had special entertainment by the Grace Episcopal Church Male Choir. This *a capella* choir with their beautiful outfits were very entertaining and appreciated.

We then had our traditional singalong with the audience, including many of our holiday favorites. It was a great party and a wonderful start of the Holiday Season!

The next scheduled event for the Chorus will be the annual Norge Ski Jumping tournament in Fox River Grove Sunday, Jan. 26th. We will be the entertainment for their opening ceremonies. Other days for Chorus activities include: *Minnekirken* in Chicago, and our annual Spring concert, which are currently being investigated.

Since the start of rehearsals in September, we have been learning the music for Sangerfest 2014. Iøm happy to report that all the music is present and accounted for. We are all anxiously awaiting a wonderful experience, and a great Sangerfest.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year! Also hoping that you don¢t become too involved with activities to neglect the love of God, family and friends.



Leve Sangen,

Thor Fjell, Corr.

GRIEG MALE CHORUS Canton SD

Greetings to all our fellow NSAA members and their families with wishes for a very Joyous Christmas Season!

Election of officers was held at our annual meeting. Elected were: Lyle Schwartz, President; Doug Olseth, Vice President; Bill Kortemeyer, Secretary; Curt Hepner, Treasurer; and Jerry Holter, Corr. Sec. and Historian.

The Grieg Chorus has been busy preparing for our annual Christmas concert, which will be held Saturday, Dec. 7th. The afternoon coffee concert will be performed at Grand Valley Lutheran Church, Canton, to benefit the Lincoln County chapter of LOVE, Inc.

Working in retail makes keeping the seasons in perspective a real challenge. The Christmas trees are up and decorated during garden show clearance; Halloween masks and tree lights are in the same shopping basket. Thanksgiving seems to be forgotten except for õBrown Thursday,ö which is bigger than õBlack Friday,ö and the warehouse trucks in December are delivering Valentines and Easter décor.

Our corporate sound reel has an especially beautiful arrangement of *Silent Night*, which plays several times during the day. The sound of that carol relaxes me, and brings everything back into perspective. I was finishing helping a couple with their purchase, when I noticed a lady leaning against the counter, looking off into space. I asked her if I could help her. *Silent Night* was playing; she looked at me and simply said, õI was listening, I almost forgot.ö

Hereøs hoping that in this busy but WONDERFUL time of year, each of you has many opportunities to share your gift of harmony, and can enjoy the Christmas season completely!



Jerry Holter, Corr. Sec.

BJORNSON MALE CHORUS Chicago IL

Dear Singer Brothers:

After being on the sidelines for a month, it was great to be back on the õfront linesö again with our director, õCaptain Speed Bump,ö aka Ed Kramer. But õfast Eddieö had us jumping through hoops making up for lost time. With only four dates to fulfill, we were soon in good shape.

Our first stop will be on Saturday, Dec. 14th at the Edison Park Lutheran Church. This is our annual Danish Christmas program, being held in Edison Park as their own church, sadly, closed down.

We'dl be singing five songs: Christmas is Coming; Deck the Halls; Jeg

er så glad, The very best time of the year, and O Holy Night, our õshowstopperö sung by Ken Michaels with the chorus.

The next day, Sunday, Dec. 15th, we are singing at *Minnekirken's* Christmas program. Their church choir will sing; the Grieg Ladies will sing; then there will be soloes, violins and all kinds of stuff. Bjornson will sing the same program as on Saturday with one more song, *Here We Go acaroling*," with the ever popular Nordic Ladies. Refreshments galore to follow.

Our next stop is Tuesday, Dec. 17th, at the Danish Retirement Home in Chicago. The evening will be spent singing along with our audience several carols combined with our regular Christmas program. The chorus always works up an appetite from all the singing, so our hosts will insist on feeding us afterwards, Oh Yeah!

Our last outing of 2013 will be Friday, Dec. 20th, at the Avalon Banquets, having a Christmasy time celebrating our Christmas party. Since that date is a while away, I donøt have the lineup for the eveningøs program. So I must apologize for now, but I will have all those details in my January 2014 report.

Leve Sangen.



George Michals. Corr. Sec.

Merry Christmas

Luren New Member Profile.



Uwe Rudolf

Uwe (pronounced OOH-veh) retired from the Luther College Department of Accounting and Management in 2012. He was born in Germany and came to the U.S. as a small boy with his parents just after WWII. Uweos first college major was architecture, and he worked for an engineering firm for ten years, also pursuing doctoral studies in German at the University of Cincinnati in Ohio.

Uwe came to Luther in 1971 to teach German. He later retrained as an accountant, earning an MBA and passing the CPA exam to move into Lutherøs business and economics department.

Uwe is fluent in English, French and German, and can get by in Japanese, Danish and Swedish. It is not surprising that he has gotten involved in international business, doing studies and work in Germany, France, and Japan.

He has taught most January term courses off-campus, including courses in corporate ethics in Japan and China. Uweøs wife Ruth Caldwell teaches French and Italian at Luther. Since 2008 they co-directed Lutherøs 2 week summer Institute: American Studies for Scandinavian and Nordic Educators. Uwe sings second bass.

For many years he has sung in the church choir at First Lutheran Church in Decorah.

Luren New Member Profile



Joel Barkel

Joel Barkel was born at Lake City, Iowa, the second of three children. A sister is older and a brother is younger.

The family moved to the Hull-Western Christian area, near Sheldon in northwest Iowa. His father was the school principal and his mother taught second grade.

While in high school, Joel participated in track and field, and dabbled in football and wrestling. He took part in choir, band, jazz band and musicals. In 2013 he graduated from Luther College, where his sister is an alum. He sang with the Norsemen, Cathedral Choir and Collegiate Chorale in college. Now he is putting his education to use as an Associate at John Cline Elementary School, Decorah, working with K-2 students.

He sings baritone and was invited to join luren by Dr. David Judisch.

Several more new Luren members will be introduced in future issues.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Norwegian Singers Association of America, Inc.

(www.nsaaonline.org)

Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers Association

(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 (630)837-8615; Director: Edwin Kramer, 32600 East Lane, Grayslake, IL 60030, tel. (847) 546-2050.

Normennenes Singing Society

Rehearsal each Tuesday evening at 8 p.m. (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, <u>thorfjell@comcast.net</u>. Recording Secretary: Frank Potempa, 1788 W. Sherwood Rd., fcpotempa@sbcglobal.net Director: Charles Kessell, 6042 W. Grace St., Chicago, IL 60634. Tel: (773)481-5941, cell (773)858-5325, perc55@juno.com.

ROCKFORD

Harmony Singing Society

Rehearsal each Tuesday 7:30 p.m.at our Club: 1104 15th Ave. Rockford, IL 61104. President: Jim Wolf, 1104 15th Ave., Rockford, IL 61104, tel (815) 965-7833.; Corresponding Secretary: Dan Lindberg 214 Rome Ave. #2 Rockford, IL 61107. Tel. (815) 229-0625. <u>Danielalindberg@cs.com</u> Director: Greg Gyllsdorff, 5922 Allerton Dr., Rochford. Tel. (815)637-9696

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

DECORAH

Luren Singing Society

Rehearsal: Every Monday night, 7:30 p.m. at Thomas Roberts High School. President: Dave Carlson, 110 Western St. Decorah, IA 52101. Tel (563)382-9411. dbc.papa@mchsi.com Corresponding Secretary: Donald L. Berg, 407 Leif Erikson Drive, Decorah, IA 52101-1038, tel. (563) 382-5727; Director: Dr. David Judisch, 814 Fifth Ave., Decorah, IA 52101, tel. (563) 382-9222 judiscda@luther.edu.

MINNESOTA MINNEAPOLIS

Norwegian Glee Club

Rehearsal: Each Thursday evening at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 4801 France Ave. So., Edina, MN. President: Herb Nelson 620 Oak St W, Stillwater MN President. Herb Telson Book States, 1985 Stores, 1985 Sto cbengh@hotmail.com Director: Carsten Slostad, 1065 Portland Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104-7011; tel. (651) 291-8639 carstonian@hotmail.com.

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: Marlan Velgersdyk, 4509 S. Magnolia Ave. Sioux Falls, SD 57103. tel. (605) 371-0669. mcvelgersdyk@midco.net Corr. Secretary: John Rasmusson, 101 W. 5TH St, Box 133, Dell Rapids, SD 57022-1501. Tel. (605) 428-3808. jpras@siouxvalley.net Director: Terry Walter, 2708 West Oak St., Sioux Falls, SD 57105, tel. (605) 339 0607, clefdwellers_on_oak@juno.com.

Norse Glee Club

Rehearsal: Each Monday, 7:30 p.m. at Nordic Hall. President: Steve Espeland, 48304 278th St, Canton SD 57103. Tel (605)987-5720; Corresponding Secretary: Gail Kristensen, 111 W. 17th St., Apt. #110, Sioux Falls, SD 57104, tel. (605)731-5281. Director: Lyle E. Kroon, 1216 Sunset Drive, Sioux Falls, SD 57105, tel. (605) 335-1624.

CANTON

Grieg Male Chorus

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

WISCONSIN MADISON

Edvard Grieg Chorus

2262 Winnebago, Madison, WI $\bar{5}3704$

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:: Ed Stone, 2009 3rd Ave, So. Sioux City NB 68776 (402)494-2956 jeston7@longlines.com. Vice President: David Lien, 1800 S. Splitrock Blvs, Brandon SD. 57005. Secretary: Ronald Beck, 28206 465th St., Lennox, 57039, tel. (605) 647-2851. beckpardoxr@speednet.com; Treasurer: David Stene, 6109 Canary Place, Sioux Falls, SD 57107-1076, tel. (605) 332-2055; Directors: Lyle Kroon, 1216 Sunset Drive, Sioux Falls, SD 57105, tel. (605) 335-1624. and Terry Walter, 2708 West Oak St., Sioux Falls, SD 57105, tel. (605) 339 0607, clefdwellers on oak@juno.com.

PACIFIC COAST NORWEGIAN SINGERS ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS:

President:Jeffrey Highland; 76 Utsalady Road, Camano Island, WA 98292. (360)387-5285 highland@smumn.edu Vice President: Pete Petersen, 713 E 7th Ave. Ellensburg WA 98926, (509) 607-9406 <u>o.petersen@gmail.com.</u>; Secretary: Phil Overlund, 11556 Shadow Ranch Rd; La Mesa CA 91941, (619)660-1125 jpoverlund@cox.net Treasurer: Rick Olson, 8726 Shadowwood Dr, Everett WA (425)337-0795, olymeister20@comcast.net; Trustees: California: Sven Olsen, 2991 Jacks Creek Pl, El Cajon CA 92020 (760)735-6171 svenio@sbcglobal.net Oregon: Mike Bagaason, 2460 Bailey Hill Rd, Eugene OR 97405, (541)687-2562, <u>bagaason@riousa.com;</u>Washington: Russ Oberg, 5650 24th Ave NW #603, Seattle WA 98107 (206)362-5913 russ@obergltc.com ,Trustee at Large: Howard Slauson, 3618 189th Place SW, Lynnwood WA 98036, (425)774-4635, howardslauson@comcast.net Director-in-Chief: G. Robert Johnston, 4707 NE 192 Pl., Lake Forest Park, 98155, tel. (206)362-1094, bobsings@gohuskies.com; Asst. Director-in-Chief: Alf Lunder Knudsen, 1513 Debrelon Lane, Mukilto WA 98275, (425)347-2769, alfknudsen@aol.com.

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.

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@cox.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: Mark Williams, 29453 Culver Lane, Junction City OR 541-343-8060. Secretary. Stan Sigstand, % Sons of Norway, Sonja lodge #38, 710 McKinley, Eugene OR 97402. Director: Ed Amundson, 29453 Culver Lane, Junction City OR 97448-9438. tel. (541) 998-6329 amundson@peak.org

SALEM Thorsmen

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

WASHINGTON

BELLINGHAM

Norwegian Male Chorus

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

EVERETT

Norwegian Male Chorus Normanna Hall, 2725 Oaks Avenue

Everett, Washington 98201

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

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: Kathy Haug, 21050 Fern St. Indianola WA 98342. Tel. (360) 908-9806. Kathy@meland.com.

SEATTLE Norwegian Male Chorus

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

Skagit Valley Manskor

PO Box 481, Mt. Vernon, WA 98273

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

TACOMA

Normanna Male Chorus

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

THE MINNEHAHA MANDSKOR **EXTENDS WISHES** FOR A BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR, 2014!

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ROGER AMDAHL RONALD BECK NORM BRAAK DONALD COOPER BRUCE DUNCAN WILLIAM HOFFMAN TONY LEGGETT REX LIVERMORE LARRY LUINENBURG DERRICK MCKENNA LARRY MEYERINK JERRY MUCHOW JOHN NELSON RAY ODE JAMES POLLMANN JOHN RASMUSSO RAY SCHNABEL JAKE VAN DEN HUL DANA VAN ROEKEL DOUG VAN ROEKE MARLAN VELGERSDYK ROBERT VIET JOEL WEHRSPANN DENNIS WOLLMAN DEANNA WEHRSPANN, ACCOMPANIST TERRY WALTER, DIRECTOR

MINNEHAHA MANDSKOR AUXILIARY

DENE AMDAHL JANELL BECK DONNA ENTRINGER JERRY LIVERMORE ROXINE LUINENBURG KAREN MUCHOW BONNIE ODE ANITA PREHEIM JOAN RASMUSSON JUANITA SCHNABEL PHYLLIS VAN DEN HUL CAROL VELGERSDYK THEOLA VIET TERRY WALTER CAROL WOLLMAN