



VOLUME 105, NO. 2

DECORAH, IA

Mar.-Apr. 2015



Edvard Grieg Chorus of Madison in rehearsal for their St. Patrick's Day Concert of 15 March 2015 in the Stoughton Opera House.

EDVARD GRIEG CHORUS

Madison WI

Celebrating our 90th Anniversary in 2015

On March 15th the Edvard Grieg Chorus celebrated our history. We began the day with a concert we called *Grieg with a Bit o' Blarney* at the Stoughton Opera House. The performance included readings, poetry, Norwegian jokes and stories, and musical solos. Assistant Director Linda Svanoie and accompanist Linda

Johnson performed a complicated and beautiful duet on recorder and violin. The audience joined in on several sing-a-longs including *My Wild Irish Rose* and *When Irish Eyes are Smiling*.

The Chorus' selections included *Danny Boy*, *Hils fra mig der Hjemme* and *Song for the Unsung Hero*. David Druckenbrod and the Chorus concluded the show with *An Irish Blessing* that includes the poignant ending, "*May God hold you in the hollow of*

His hand until we meet again.”

Following the concert, members of the Chorus and their spouses traveled to the Stoughton Country Club for our 90th Anniversary Founders Day celebration. After an excellent meal and anniversary cake dessert, Chorus historian Al Swain presented his review of the Chorus' 90-year history.



Al Swain presents Chorus history.

The Chorus was organized on January 26, 1925 as the Grieg Mannskor, one of three Norwegian choruses in Madison and at least six others in Wisconsin. By the time we changed our name to the Edvard Grieg Chorus in 2002, we were the last surviving Norwegian singing group in Wisconsin,

Over our 90-year history we have had twelve Directors. Our current director, Mark Everson, who joined his grandfather in the Chorus, began his service as our accompanist in 1976 and became our Director in 1984. Mark's 31 years as our musical leader ranks him as the Chorus' longest serving director. Over this same period we have had nine accompanists.

The Chorus has hosted many visiting choruses from Norway as well as performing for Norwegian royalty and dignitaries. The Chorus sang for Prince Olav and Princess Martha when they visited Madison in 1939 and for King Olav's son, Prince Harald, in 1965. In 1994 the Chorus

performed at a reception at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in honor of the Prime Minister of Norway Gro Harlem Brundtland's Honorary Doctor's degree.

The Chorus attended its first Sangerfest held in Chicago in 1926. In 1932 the Chorus hosted the national Sangerfest, the first broadcast by shortwave radio to Norway. The Chorus hosted the Midwest Division Sangerfests in 1955 and 1963 and the NSAA Sangerfests in 1974, 1990, 2000, and 2010.

Next on our schedule will be several performances for *Syttende Mai* week-end in Stoughton including the grand opening of *Livsreise (Life's Journey)*, the new Norwegian Cultural Center.



Dick Johnston, Corr. Sec.

BJORNSON MALE CHORUS

Chicago IL

Due to a local "snafu," my January-February letter is now appearing in this issue. Please read on:

I'm sure Bjornson isn't the only chorus that is glad things are back to normal after a very busy December 2014. During the holidays, each week in December we appeared at the same places almost every year. It's almost like family get-togethers.

Anyway, our first rehearsal on Tuesday, Jan. 6th, was cancelled due to below zero weather. We had the same problem in Jan. 2014. Aren't there some choruses that bypass

January rehearsals altogether? Our Januarys are generally “slow motion” because of the sub-zero temperatures. I’m sure our frigid weather is “old hat” to most of the Midwest choruses. I guess it takes some of our “old-timers” longer to thaw out! So I must congratulate the chorus for a string of outstanding gigs during the Christmas holidays. I’m sure we made a lot of Scandinavians forget their troubles and join in singing the blues away.

Our dinner concert at the Avalon was well attended. The chorus sang two songs to begin the evening, then took a break as dinner was served.

Our program began with a beautiful duet featuring our director Ed Kramer and his wife Karen. Next was a solo by Bob Weldon (bass) who sang *Blessed Assurance* a capella. Beautifully done, I might add. Next was Dick Klein (2nd Tenor) who sang *Joseph’s Song*. Great Job, Dick!

The chorus closed the program with *The Christmas Flourish* cantata. Ken Michaels sang *O Holy Night* with the chorus for the finale.

The spring has been pretty quiet. Our only outing this year was Friday, March 27th, at the 35th annual Festival of Song[®] at the Estonia House in Lincolnshire. Normennes Singing Society was the host chorus as this is where they practice. The choruses in attendance: Waukegan Swedish Glee Club, Jeff Delay, Director; Chicago Latvian Men’s Choir with Mara Varpa, Director; Chicago Swedish Male Chorus, Jeff Delay, Director; Elmhurst Männer Chorus, Laura Schmuldt, Director; Chicago Swedish Glee Club, Steve Burke, Director; Bjornson Male Chorus, Ed Kramer, Director. And last but not least, Normennes Singing Society with

Chuck Kessell as Director. Each chorus sang two songs to the delight of the large audience.

To end the program, the mass chorus of 100 men gathered and sang *Let There Be Music, You’ll Never Walk Alone, Sanctus, Rise Up O Men of God, Dear Land of Home* and *God Bless America*.

A standing ovation ended the evening’s festivities. Coffee “and” was served to end the evening.

Our next outing will be Sunday, April 19th at Bethesda Retirement Home in Chicago. Bjornson has been appearing there since our very existence. It’s been three years since our last appearance there, so it will be like “old home week.”

We’ll be singing Friday, May 15th at *Minnekirken* on Logan Square, celebrating *Syttende Mai* once again. Can’t say enough about the wonderful experience of greeting old friends for an evening of fellowship.

The refreshments following the service are first class! Then on Friday, June 12th, our Spring Concert and dinner will be held at the Avalon Banquets. We’re working on the program now, so more on that night in the next issue.

Leve Sangen,



George Michals, Corr. Sec.

To Chuck Engh:
Gratulere med Dagen
(SangerHilsen Editors).

SANGER-HILSEN
(“SINGERS GREETING”)

Published Bi-Monthly, by the Norwegian Singers
 Association of America
 Incorporated under State Laws of South Dakota as an
 Educational Society.

Address all matters for publication subscriptions, renewals,
 change of address, and make remittances payable to:
 “Sanger-Hilsen” Office:

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to “Sanger-Hilsen”
 Office.

DONALD L. BERG
Editor-Business Manager
 407 Leif Erikson Drive
 Decorah, IA 52101
www.nsaonline.org

Subscription price \$22.00 per year

SangerHilsen Production Assistant Dennis
 Barnaal, barnaade@luther.edu
 Periodicals postage paid at Decorah, Iowa.
 Sanger-Hilsen USPS 481-380

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**DEADLINE FOR
 MAY-JUNE 2015 ISSUE
 June 8, 2015.**

**NORWEGIAN GLEE CLUB
Minneapolis MN**



Louie, Lee and Joe welcome Charlie Engh to the "90 and over club."

And then there were four: A 25% increase in the "90 and Over Club." Charlie Engh joined this august group of Joe Champion (a 60+ year singer), Lee Randall and Louis Becker. Next year Bjorn Hagen will be eligible to apply for membership, if he fulfills all of the requirements and obligations. The normal maturing of singers is acceptable evidence of singing being a healthy life-extender.

Another successful Lutefisk dinner can be added to the archives of the Glee Club. Our Spring date was a bit earlier this year because of some remodeling activity at the church, but it all worked out with the usual hundreds of folks enjoying the delicacy of this fine fish. The effort is to raise funds to support our activities. I also regard it as a public service we are able to provide.

Director Carsten has injected several new songs to our rehearsals, including some famous pop songs from the 40s and 50s that will add some nostalgia and pep to the many gigs we have scheduled for this spring. Of course we don't neglect the Scandinavian selections. Our few winter escapists have now returned to

fill up some vacant seats at rehearsals. Returnees include our new President, Bob Olson #2.

Earl Evensen brought us the news of the national Bygdelag organization's 100th anniversary, to be held here. We have been asked to sing at this event, which we are happy and proud to do.

Our lack of snow this winter and the moisture it usually contains has left us quite dry; good spring rains will be very welcome. Last year the Minnehaha Falls put on quite a show. Quite different this year.

Shirley Engh, the new past-president of the Glee Club Auxiliary, was honored at their annual meeting for her 13 years of service, and presented with a gorgeous cashmere woolen shawl. The new President, Maggie Champion, will provide strong leadership to this great group of ladies who do so much for the Glee Club. We could not function without their help.

We have encouraging news on the status of Ron Hemstad and Sverre Waagen. We expect to see them soon.

For a smile: At breakfast, the husband says to his wife, "What would you do if I won the lottery?" She replies, "OI would take my half and leave you." "Great," he says, "Here is \$6. I won \$12 yesterday. Stay in touch."



Charles Engh, Corr. Sec.

NORDIC MALE CHORUS**Sioux City IA**

Planning continues for the Sioux Valley Sangerfest on June 13th, which our chorus will be hosting. All activities, including the concert, will be held at Morningside Lutheran Church. Joint rehearsals have been underway at the member choruses as the directors prepare music for what promises to be a memorable program of male voices.

The Nordics lost a long-time member of the Chorus with the recent death of Harlan Frank "Bud" Dawson. A diamond-plus Sangerfest award honoree, Bud was an active member of the second tenor section for half a century. He also contributed his leadership for many Sioux Valley and NSAA Sangerfests. He loved to proclaim humorously that he was the only "Irishman" in the Norwegian chorus.

His late wife, Joyce, to whom he was married for 60 years, was an active member of the Chorus' Auxiliary.

Blessed be their memories!

Obituary

Harlan Dawson

Harlan Frank "Bud" Dawson, died Feb. 9th, 2015 at a Sioux City nursing home. He was 92.

Bud was born Jan. 10, 1923, at Washta, Iowa, the youngest of 10 children. He grew up in Grand Meadow. He served in the US Air Force during World War II.

While working in Sioux City following military service, he met Joyce Swanson, whom he married Sept. 26, 1947. Their family includes son Craig, daughter Barb, their spouses, five grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

Bud worked at Swift's in Sioux City, retiring at age 59, then had his own company, Dawson Advertising Specialities.

Bud sang in his church choir at Grace United Methodist Church and in the Nordic Male Chorus for over 50 years.

The funeral service was held Feb. 12 at Grace United Methodist Church



Bob Hansen, Corr. Sec.

NORMENNENES SINGING SOCIETY**Chicago IL**

On Friday, March 27th, we hosted our 35th annual Festival of Song at the Estonian House near Lincolnshire.

For this event we invite several chorus groups to perform individually and in a mass chorus. The results were better than we expected, as we had seven choruses perform individually, and several other singers joined us for the mass chorus.

The individual choruses were wonderful. Adding to the quality of the mass chorus was our accompanist, Michael Benschish. Various directors of the choruses directed the mass chorus selections.

The program included: *Let There Be Music*, *You'll Never Walk Alone*, *Sanctus*, *Rise Up O Men of God*, *Dear Land of Home*, and *God Bless America*.

The individual choruses were Bjornson Male Chorus, three Swedish choruses, one Latvian, and one German, and of course Normennenes Singing Society. There were nearly 100 singers and total attendance of 230, adding to a wonderful evening of music and fellowship.

Congratulations to our Entertainment Committee for hosting a wonderful social hour after the program.

We are now preparing for our annual Spring Concert Saturday, May 2nd. The chorus has had enthusiastic rehearsals, as we are learning some new songs. Also, that evening we will be featuring the Harmony Singing Society of Rockford and the Edvard Grieg Chorus of Madison as part of our program. This has enhanced the anticipation of our concert. We are all looking forward to a great event with our brother singers.

Also we look forward to the 17th of May celebrations, including the big parade on Sunday, May 17th. We will be joining Bjornson Male Chorus in singing the national anthems and other selections at the end of the parade in Park Ridge.

Also, we are investigating an invitation to perform at a music festival at the home congregation of our Director Chuck Kessel in Chicago on June 6th. We actually welcome opportunities to perform at various venues because it could be a situation for recruitment of new singers.

Leve Sangen,



Thor Fjell

MINNEHAHA MANDSKOR

Sioux Falls SD

The March agenda for Mandskor started with a singout on March 9 for the residents at Dow Rummel Village. Our concert was attended by a capacity crowd in the beautiful chapel, one of our favorite places to sing because of the excellent acoustics.

The second Monday we hosted a Sioux Valley Singers joint rehearsal at Active Generations. We concentrated on the music for the SVS Sangerfest to be put on by the Nordic Male Chorus in Sioux City June 13. This practice was preceded by a 2016 Sangerfest Committee meeting. Our own President Marlan Velgersdyk chaired and reported that significant progress is being made in the preparations for the big one, especially in the area of fundraising. The Mandskor Auxiliary, as always, served a wonderful lunch.

On March 23 we resumed work on the Sangerfest numbers, as well as preparing for future concerts. In the afternoon on Saturday, March 28, we were at Avera Prince of Peace Assisted Living, entertaining a nice crowd in the dining room. This was an opportunity to perform for several relatives of our members. Edgebrook Nursing Home, in Edgerton, MN (about 60 miles NE of Sioux Falls) will be the site of our next outing on April 25. One of the Mandskor members has a relative there.

Besides rehearsing on March 23, we held our monthly business meeting, which included discussions about important activities:

- Plans for the Kuchen-Chislic booth at Sioux Empire Fair August 2-9.
- An invitation from Director Terry Walter and her husband Don Cooper

was received to hold our summer picnic outing at their classic car storage building in Tea, SD (just south of Sioux Falls). The date will be July 27. Chorus members will be given the opportunity to drive some of the cars.

● A report about the new and improved red vests. Ray Schnabel's wife, Juanita, is working on this, assisted by other auxiliary members. The final decision was to start from scratch...new material, buttons, trim, etc. Juanita assures us that she will finish in time for the Sioux City Sangerfest.

● The annual fundraiser for Active Generations (where we rehearse) will be held on April 19. Gourmet Guys has been a tradition for several years. Don Cooper has been the producer-director for the Mandskor entry many times, and this year decided to pass the torch to Bill Hoffman, assisted by Larry Luinenburg and John Rasmusson. Rømmegrøt will be our entry, prepared by Bill for 600 or so attendees.

● Sales of our recent CD have now exceeded expenses.

All for now. I need to brush up on my Norwegian to send an appropriate greeting.

Respectfully submitted,



John Rasmusson, Corr. Sec.

**Harmony Singing Society
Rockford IL**

Earlier I introduced our readers to the first and second tenor sections of

our Chorus. Here are the baritone and bass singers and the number of years they have been with the Society.

Baritones



Bob Aden 17



Joe Metzler 7



Wade Vance 12



Brad Whitlock 1

Basses



Don Cunitz 31



Chuck Dreyfuss 1



Dan Lindberg 12



John Monsen 30

This past February 21st our chorus sang at the Ladies' Auxiliary 84th Anniversary Dinner. We are fortunate to have a club building in which we can hold varied events! The dinner was excellent. Dana Bailey soloed and sang *All the Way*.



The 84th Anniversary Cake

We enjoyed a corn beef and cabbage dinner March 21st at our club. All the trimmings made for a fine meal. The dinner was cooked on site. We are fortunate to have a large club house with several rooms and a large meeting hall. Both parking lots were full of cars.



March 21st dinner.



Harmony Singing Society Sings for the ladies.

I have received several requests for Ole and Lena jokes. Here is one.

Little Ole was sitting at the kitchen table doing his homework. He had a puzzled look on his face

as he considered the assignment that was due--writing an essay about his origins. He turned to ask his mother,

"Mama, vere did Grandma come from?" She answered,

"Da stork brought her."

"And vere did yew come from?" he asked. "Da

stork brought me," she replied. "And vere did I

come from?" Ole inquired. "Vell son, da

stork brought yew tew,"

Mama Lena replied.

With a scowl on his face,

Little Ole picked up his pencil, turned

to his school tablet, and began writing



84th Anniversary Dinner.

his essay: "Der have been no natural births in our family for three jenerations."



Steve James, Corr. Sec.

**LUREN SINGING SOCIETY
Decorah IA**

We enjoyed favorable weather for our Lenten appearances. Prior to the service at Old East Paint Creek Lutheran Church at rural Waukon on Mar. 4th, most of us shared in the soup supper. The service itself was a full worship service with Holy Communion.

This congregation is one of the oldest Norwegian Lutheran congregation west of the Mississippi, with the first services held in 1851. Pastor C. L. Clausen came from southern Wisconsin to visit the Painted Creek settlement. The church building is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Although not on a typical Wednesday evening, we did sing a joint concert at Rushford Lutheran Church on March 20th with the Valley Male Chorus from Hull IA. Their group was on a weekend tour, mostly in Iowa. One of their members is the father of a former Luther student, who had taken voice lessons from Dr. Judisch and sang with Luren last year.

The Valley Male Chorus' objective was to raise money for Hope Haven, a project that provides services to persons with disabilities there at Hull and around the world.

More recently, on Apr. 12th, we sang at West Clermont Lutheran Church for that congregation's

Centennial. The congregation is a daughter to another very old congregation, East Clermont Lutheran, which traces its origins to the early 1850s.

We are looking forward to hosting "Cantus," the Norwegian women's chorus that sang the opening number in the Disney movie "Frozen." This group is coming to our community on Thursday, Apr. 23rd and will sing in concert at 6:30 p.m. at First Lutheran Church.

Our now annual joint concert with The Norsemen, the freshmen chorus from Luther College, is set for May 10 at Decorah Lutheran Church at 7 p.m.

Many of these young men go on to sing with other choral groups at Luther. It is a delight to follow these young men in their musical careers and to have had a small part in what is often a professional musical pursuit.

Prior to our Norway tour, we will do a bon voyage concert at Hesper Lutheran Church on June 7th. This congregation is observing its 150th anniversary this year. The following evening will be our final rehearsal before leaving for Norway on June 16th. Our itinerary is included elsewhere in this issue.

We have experienced two losses in our Luren family since the last report.

Mrs. Betty (Rikansrud) Nelson, widow of Dr. David T. Nelson, died of an aortic aneurism on March 8th. We sang for her memorial service on March 17th (ironically the anniversary date of Luren's founding).



Betty Nelson

Betty was born Feb. 14, 1935 to A. R. "Doc" and Grace (Nelson) Rikansrud. With Doc's involvement in the Norwegian Singers Association and in Luren, Betty was a part of the Luren family virtually her whole life. She and David married during her senior year at Luther, April 20, 1957. She was active in many organizations in addition to Luren Auxiliary.

Betty and David were parents to four children: Elise, Andrea, Kathryn and Stephen. There are eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

The second loss to death was Jerrold Tesmer, who died of a brain tumor on April 13th. His funeral is scheduled for April 17th at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Granger MN. Luren will be sharing in the service.

Jerry, as we knew him, sang second tenor. His father-in-law Gordon Jenssen sings first tenor, and his son-in-law, Colin Pickett, sings baritone. One son, Gordon Tesmer, also sang in Luren during his senior year of High School. Thus there were three generations involved in Luren together.

New Luren Members



MICAH BOYUM was born at Havre MT with "ekte Norsk" parents; his mother's maiden name is Solheim. Micah was home-schooled through ninth grade, took one year at West Union, to which the family had moved in 1990, then went on to Hillcrest Academy at Fergus Falls MN. Micah

has played piano since 8 years old. He sang in the Hillcrest Academy choir. He sings second tenor.

He and his father, Michael, were invited to Luren by Doc and Aaron Bicknese. His first impression of Luren: "overwhelmed!"



MICHAEL BOYUM was born at Havre MT, the youngest of three children: one older brother and one sister, plus an adopted sister. Michael's grandparents had moved to Montana from the Kasson MN area in 1959. His parents met at Dakota Lutheran Academy in Minot ND. Michael attended country school, and three years of High School at Havre, then went on to Hillcrest Academy in Fergus Falls MN, where he met his wife, who originally came from Castalia IA.

While at Hillcrest, Michael was a part of the choir which toured on behalf of the school, including a three-week stint in Canada. Michael and his wife (nee Solheim) have five children: a son, three daughters and another son. They were married in 1988.

Michael graduated in 1986 from Montana State University in Bozeman with a BS in geology. While in college, he sang in a quartet. The Boyums moved from Montana after one year of married life, coming to rural Ossian in 1990. He and son Micah were invited to join Luren by his veterinarian, Doc Bicknese. He sings second bass.



CALEB SANDER is our newest accompanist. He was born at Newton IA, the second of 10 children (seven boys, three girls). His father is a paramedic, while his mother has been busy as housekeeper for the family. Caleb was home-schooled through High School.

He enrolled at Luther College in 2011 and intends to graduate next year with a Music Composition major and Management minor. During his freshman year at Luther, he sang second bass with the Norsemen and played Second Violin in the Philharmonic Orchestra.

His sophomore year he continued in the Orchestra. For his Junior year he sang in Collegiate Choir and played in the orchestra, adding percussion in Concert Band. Currently he plays piano and does percussion in several groups. He hopes to attend film-scoring school after graduation. (He began piano at 6 and violin at 12.)

Obituary



Jerrold Tesmer was born Jan. 26, 1951, one of five children of Allen

and Arlene (McNee) Tesmer. He was a 1969 grad of Harmony High School and over several years, interrupted by military service during the Viet Nam conflict, received his Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Education. He taught Ag for one year, then returned to the farm for 10 years.

In 1987 Jerry became a County Extension Agent, serving until illness forced his retirement after 27 years in 2014. His proudest accomplishment was his Farm Safety Day Camp, when over 400 fourth-grade students learn farm safety.

Jerry married Kathryn Jenson July 28, 1973. She and five children, along with six grandchildren, and three siblings, as well as his father, survive. He was predeceased by his mother, a sister Julie and an infant son.



Don Berg, Corr. Sec.

Itinerary for Luren's 2015 Concert Tour of Norway

Tues. June 16 - Leave MSP on Icelandair for Trondheim via Reykjavik.

Wed. June 17 - Trondheim.

Thurs. June 18 - Trondheim. Evening concert at Brekstad, hosted by Ørland Sangforening of Brekstad.

Fri. June 19 -Trondheim to Molde. Joint concert with Fuglset Mannskor.

Sat. June 20 - Molde, Tronlstigen and Geirangerfjord to Balestrand.

Sun. June 21 - Balestrand, Flåm to Myrdal to Voss. Evening concert at Vangskyrkja in Voss.

Mon. June 22 - Voss to Bergen. Evening concert at Sletta on Radøy.

Tues. June 23 - Tour Bergen, travel in afternoon to Lakesevåg for St. Hans Eve bonfire, etc.

Wed. June 24 - Bergen to Rjukan.

Thurs. June 25 - Rjukan to Skien.

Fri. June 26 - Skien to Oslo. Evening concert at Eidsberg Church, Oslo.

Sat. June 27 - Free day in Oslo.

Sun. June 28 - Oslo to Reykjavik with tour of the city and stay over.

Mon. June 29 - Reykjavik to MSP.

Although the number of concerts is not large, there will be opportunity for rehearsals and informal singing sites.

We hope to be able to share some of the highlights via pictures and stories.

Special thanks to Larry Lubbert, chair of Luren's Tour Committee, and other members of the committee for hours of work. Special thanks also to Janet Tollund of Group Travel Directors in Minneapolis, and her co-workers in the planning and organizing of the tour.

NORSE GLEE CLUB

Sioux Falls SD

March saw our music folders become complete with Sioux Valley Singers Sangerfest music for both our individual chorus presentations and the combined choruses concert. Rehearsals, as expected, are increasingly focused and intense, yet we seem to be progressing with some satisfaction. For six of these eight weeks we practiced as just our chorus alone, but for two rehearsals we joined with the other three choruses comprising the Sioux Valley Singers for combined rehearsals. The richness

of the sound in the larger groups gets your attention, and gives you a sense that some serious progress is being made. On March 16th, the Mandskor played host here in Sioux Falls, and on April 20th, the Grieg Chorus played host in Canton, SD.

Other concert work saw us performing a spring concert at Touchmark at All-Saints retirement home on Sunday March 15th. For this Lenten season we chose seasonally appropriate music in both English and Norwegian. At the reception which followed, the glee club recognized my wife, Diane, upon the occasion her 75th birthday. She is not able to function within our Auxiliary, so I was very appreciative of their efforts. On Saturday April 18th, the Glee Club sang the National Anthem at a home game for the Augustana College's men's baseball team. This latter event has become an enjoyable tradition for us, weather permitting, and our work seems well appreciated by the fans and the teams.

As well as continuing our Sangerfest preparations, our May/June future has us again supporting a worship service in the St. Dymas Chapel at the state penitentiary on Thursday, May 7th. The final joint chorus rehearsal for this Sangerfest will be in Sioux City, Iowa on Monday June 1st, with the concert planned for there on Saturday June 13th.



Gail Kristensen, Corr. Sec.

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.

Normenneses 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, thorfjell@comcast.net. Recording Secretary: Frank Potempa, 1788 W. Sherwood Rd., fcpotempa@shcglobal.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 7:00 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: Steve James, 625 Dawson Ave., Rockford IL 61107, tel. (815)601-3813. stevej1945@comcast.net. Director: Sherry Dreyfuss, 11665 Glen Eagles Lane, Belvidere IL 61008. Tel (815)978-2245. swedishcantor@gmail.com

IOWA SIOUX CITY

Nordic Male Chorus

Rehearsals: Every Monday night, 7:30 p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 315 Hamilton Blvd. Sioux City, Iowa 51103; President: Gary Munson, 3303 Court St., Sioux City, IA 51104, tel. (712) 277-1428; Corresponding Secretary: Robert R. Hansen, 20 Eastview Drive, Sioux City, IA 51106 ((712) 258-7445 regors5@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: Ken Larson, 210 Iowa Ave. Decorah IA 52101. tel. (563)382-8167. laronke@luther.edu. 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 55082-5624 (651)587-4819 herbert.nelson@comcast.net ; Corresponding Secretary: Charles Engh, 7642 Prairie Flower Blvd., Chanhassen, MN 55317, tel. (952)401-8838; 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, 4312 W. 58th St. #109, Sioux Falls SD 57108, tel. (605)271-0838. jpras@midco.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. lkarli@sio.midco.net

WISCONSIN MADISON

Edvard Grieg Chorus

2262 Winnebago, Madison, WI 53704
 Rehearsal: Each Tuesday, 7 p.m. President: Steve Christenson, 519 N. Harrison St., Stoughton WI 53579, (608) 873-9846 steveKrisC@yahoo.com; Corresponding Secretary: Dick Johnston, 26 Chautauqua Tr., Madison WI 53719, (608) 833-6284 ; Director: Mark W. Everson, 711 Highway #106, Edgerton, WI 53534, tel. (608) 884-9398 evers1111@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, SD 57039, tel. (605) 647-2851, beckparadoxr@speednet.com; Treasurer: David Stene, 6109 Canary Place, Sioux Falls, SD 57107-1076, tel. (605) 332-2055; Director: Terry Walter, 2708 West Oak St., Sioux Falls, SD 57105, tel. (605) 339 0607, clefdwellers_on_oak@juno.com; Assoc. Director: Charles Schuett, 5040 Stone Ave., Sioux City, IA 51106, tel. (712) 276-2328, scschuett@aol.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 o.petersen@gmail.com;
 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 98208, (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, bagaason@rioussa.com; Washington:
 Russ Oberg, 5650 24th Ave NW #603, Seattle WA 98107 (206)362-5913 russ@obergtc.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 Debreton Lane, Mukilto WA 98275, (425)347-2769, alfknudsen@aol.com.

CALIFORNIA

OAKLAND

Normanna Glee Club

Rehearsal: time and place unknown

President: Larry Schaleger, qubedude@aik.cin ;Secretary:
 Paul Eikeberg, tel. (925)485-1538 vikingike@yahoo.com
 Director: unknown

SAN DIEGO

San Diego Manskor

Rehearsal: every Monday at 7:00 p.m. on the campus of San Diego State Univ. in music Bldg. President: Sven I. Olsen, 2991 Jacks Creek Pl. Escondido, CA 92027, tel. (619) 709-6171, svenio@cox.net; Secretary: Jon Homerud, 3354 Bonica Woods Dr., Bnita, CA 91902 (619)223-2784 holmerud@cox.net; Director: Paul May, tel. (619)227-9979 paulthomasmay@gmail.com

SAN FRANCISCO

Norwegian Singing Society of San Francisco

Rehearsal: Meets every Monday 7:00 p.m. at 235 Brentwood Ave., San Francisco, CA 94127. President: Herleiv Storsteter, 235 Brentwood Ave., San Francisco, CA 94103 tel: (415) 344-0204; Secretary: Mark Mathisen, 1601 Oakwood Dr., San Mateo, CA 94403 tel: (650)947-1357, dchouse@earthlink.net; Director: Megan O'Brien.

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: Duane Esperum, tel. (206)501-2010 desperum@gmail.com; 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 Lanning Avenue North East, Salem, OR 97303. President: Paul Flora, tel. (503)363-9753 paul.flora@pgn.com ; Secretary: Wes Anderson, tel. (503)363-1714 wander@comcast.net ; Director: Peter Butler, 31869 Eastway, Lebanon, OR 97355, tel. (503) 259-2006, whitewolf372@centurytel.net

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, 7:00 p.m. at Normanna Hall; President: Craig Fredlund, tel. (425)210-9067, craig_fredlund@jamco-america.com .Secretary: Robert Bruland, tel. (425)335-1150 burland2@comcast.net.
 Director: Steve Jensen, 2694 Goshen Road, Bellingham, WA 98226, tel: (360) 966-3132, stmjensen@earthlink.net, cell: (389)393-3919

POULSBO

Vestre Sund Manskor

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: Warren Rosvold, (360)930-0504, wrosvold@gmail.com; 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: Jens Eysteinnsson, tel. (205)799-8000, JensEysteinnsson@AmericanSeaffods.com Secretary: Rolf Federspiel, tel. (425)823-9080, farfarfed77@frontier.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. highland@smumn.edu
 Secretary Skip Ingraham tel (360)387-6168. Director Steve Jensen, Bellingham WA, 98226 Cell phone 360-303-3919 stmjensen@earthlink.net.

TACOMA

Normanna Male Chorus

Rehearsal: Each Monday 7:00 p.m., Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 3315 South 19th Street, Tacoma, Wash. President: Pete Petersen, tel.(509)607-9406, o.petersen@gmail.com
 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 handsome building pictured is *Livreise*, the recently completed Norwegian Cultural Center in Stoughton WI. Edvard Grieg Chorus will perform here at its grand opening.