



**VOLUME 105, NO. 4**

**DECORAH, IA**

**July-Aug. 2015**



Luren tour began June 17 in Trondheim, home of inspiring Nidaros Cathedral, visited by group



Luren Singing Society  
Decorah, Iowa USA

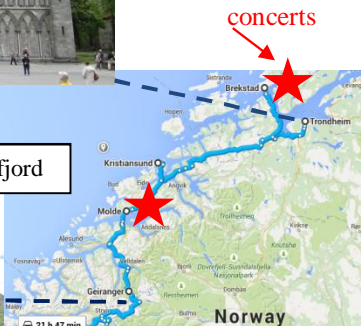


www.lurensingers.com

2015 Friendship Concert  
Tour of Norway

Concert program cover

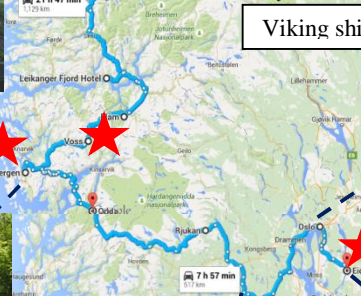
Seven Sisters falls, Geiranger fjord



Viking ship museum near Oslo



Griegø's composing cabin at his home near Bergen



Day trip on Telemark canal boat Henrik Ibsen



Eidsberg kirke, venue of last concert June 26



**NORDIC MALE CHORUS****Sioux City IA**

(This first segment was received on June 11, too late for inclusion in the previous issue. Our apologies to the Nordic Chorus and especially Correspondent Robert Hansen for this omission, occasioned by the concert tour in Norway by the Luren Singers.)

The Nordics posted a May 31<sup>st</sup> prelude to the Sioux Valley Sangerfest by singing for the opening of worship services at St. Markø Lutheran

Church in Sioux City. They lifted their voices to ðBeautiful Saviorö and ðHe is Lord of All.ö

St. Markø pastor urged the congregation to attend the Sangerfest scheduled for June 13 at Morningside Lutheran Church to hear the 70 voice male choir from our four choruses in Iowa and South Dakota: Minnehaha Mandskor and Norse Glee Club of Sioux Falls, Grieg Male Chorus of Canton, and Nordic Male Chorus of Sioux City.

**49<sup>th</sup> Biennial Sangerfest**  
**SIoux VALLEY SINGERS GRAND CONCERT**

Morningside Lutheran Church  
 Sioux City, Iowa 5 p.m. June 13, 2015

Terry Walter, Director-in-Chief Chuck Schuett, Associate Director  
 Deanna Wehrspann, Accompanist

**I**

*Ja, Vi Elsker Dette Landet*  
 Star Spangled Banner  
*Sangerhilsen* (Singers Greeting)  
*Lilla Stina*  
 Grace

B. Bjørnson  
 Francis Scott Key  
 Edvard Grieg  
 C. P. Wahlin  
 Mark Hayes

**Guest Soloist Nick Anderson****II**

*Til Sangerfest I vest*  
 Lord, Listen to Your Children  
*Hälsa Dem Därhemma* (Sailorø Greeting)  
 Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow  
 On My Way to Jordan  
 Hey, Look Me Over

Tore Ulleberg  
 Medema/Schrader  
 Frederick Wick  
 Paul Wohlgemuth  
 Jay Althouse  
 Clay Warnick

**Guest Soloist Nick Anderson****III**

He is Lord Of All  
*Det er makt I de foldede hender* Soloist: D. Wlsma  
*Norge, mit Norge!* Soloist: Gail Kristensen  
 Salute To Our Patriots

B. Harlan/T. Walter  
 Tore Ulleberg  
 Alfred Paulsen  
 Terry Walter

The 49<sup>th</sup> Biennial Sioux Valley Sangerfest Grand Concert was presented at 5 p.m., Saturday, June 13, 2015, at Morningside Lutheran Church, Sioux City. It was a great opportunity to hear the combined 70-voice male choruses with members from Sioux City, Sioux Falls and Canton.

The well-received program included a variety of American and Norwegian music, spirituals, show tunes, and Scandinavian classics.

Nordic Male Chorus hosts the event every eight years. Chuck Schuett, our Nordic director, conducted a large portion of the concert as Associate Director of the singers along with Terry Walter, Director-in-Chief. Deanna Wehrspann was accompanist and Nick Anderson of the host chorus was soloist.

The late Harlan øBudø Dawson of Nordics was honored in the Roll Call of Departed Members. Schuett and Gary Munson were awarded 20+ Sangerfest pins, and Ken Kathol and Larry Weil earned pins for five Sangerfests. First time attendees from the host group were the Rev. Leland Schmidt, Charles Horkey and Dave Carlson, as well as Nick Anderson.

(The following is excerpted from the Sangerfest program.) *Norwegian and Scandinavian singing societies organized in the Sioux Valley area in the early 1890s. They were part of a national organization which gathered on even-numbered years for a National Sangerfest. Our choruses desired to meet more frequently. The director of the Minnehaha Mandskor of Sioux Falls organized a meeting of delegates from area choruses to meet in Canton on April 9, 1913. Minnehaha Mandskor, Normendennes*

*Sangforening (now the Nordic Male Chorus) of Sioux City and Grieg Sangforening of Canton were represented at this assembly. They resolved to unite for a Sioux Valley Sangerfest every odd-numbered year, beginning in 1913. Nor Singing Society of Omaha soon joined the group. Fred Wick of Sioux Falls was elected the first Director-in-Chief for the first SVSA Sangerfest, held in Sioux City Aug. 27, 1913.*



Bob Hansen, Corr. Sec.

### NORMENNENES SINGING SOCIETY Chicago IL

Our chorus has had an extended summertime break, and we are anxious to begin our fall rehearsals. This year we are starting earlier than normal, beginning Tuesday, Aug. 18<sup>th</sup>.

The reason is that we will be part of a combined Scandinavian chorus that will entertain at the 36<sup>th</sup> annual Scandinavian Day festival in South Elgin. This event is very popular and has averaged over 2,000 guests for the last four years. Also, we will be manning a booth to advertise our chorus on Sunday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>.

Other activities on our schedule include our 145<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner concert on Friday, Oct. 30. Our annual Christmas party and dinner will be Friday, Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>.

We have also been invited back to perform at opening ceremonies at the annual ski jump in Fox River Grove. Last year we had a wonderful time

(continued page 5)

**SANGER-HILSEN**  
**(“SINGERS GREETING”)**

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**DEADLINE FOR  
 Sept.-Oct. 2015 ISSUE  
 Oct. 10, 2015.**

and there were nearly 4,000 in attendance. The date is Sunday, Jan. 31, 2016.

We are working on other singing venues for the fall and winter seasons. Our goal is to average one performance per month, which could be a singer recruitment opportunity.

*Leve Sangen,*



Thor Fjell

### **MINNEHAHA MANDSKOR Sioux Falls SD**

The August 10 deadline for Sanger Hilsen is upon us!

In spite of these two months supposedly being a time of recess for us, it seems as if we have been extraordinarily busy with one thing and another.

For starters, on June 13, we traveled to Sioux City for the Sioux Valley Singers Biennial Sangerfest. This event, hosted by Nordic Male Chorus, was a delightful gathering of the three choruses in South Dakota and one in Iowa. Attendance was excellent. Congratulations and Thank You to Nordic for such a fine job of planning and execution.

The next SVSA Sangerfest (in 2017) will be the responsibility of Norse Glee Club in Sioux Falls.

There have been committee meetings and a lot of behind-the-scenes work has been done to get ready for the 2016 Sioux Falls NSAA Sangerfest.

Accomplishments to date:

The Sangerfest hotel (Convention Center Sheraton), concert and meeting

facilities have been arranged at the Sioux Falls Convention Center.

Some major advertising for the Souvenir Program Book has been sold, along with several smaller ads.

ALPHAGRAPHICS has been selected to do graphic design: cover, ad layouts, logo, everything needed to produce the Program Book.

Chair Marlan Velgersdyk has done a wonderful job of organizing the work to be done: identifying the major responsibilities and assigning personnel from all the SVSA choruses. An important meeting will be held on August 14 to review what has been done and what remains.

Director Terry Walter and Don Cooper invited us to hold our summer outing on July 27 at their shop in Tea where they have an outstanding collection of automobiles of various vintages. Probably the most notable among the cars was a 1933 Rolls Royce. This car drew a lot of attention, and a few of the braver members took it for a spin.



The 1933 Rolls Royce

As usual, the potluck was delicious, accompanied by fried chicken from the Royal Fork. The evening was capped off by a rehearsal for the Dow Rummel Retirement Village concert the following night, and the Sunday afternoon concert at the Sioux Empire Fair. A number of guests were present, some of whom are prospective members.



Mandskor on front porch at Sioux Empire Fair.

A lot of time has been spent getting ready for the Chislic and Kuchen booth, which has become an annual event at the Sioux Empire Fair in Sioux Falls. One very big project was to replace the roof on the booth. All of the work was accomplished by members, and they did a professional job.



D. Cooper, J. Muchow and R. Amdahl raise the sign on the Chislic booth.

At this writing, sales are well ahead of last year, and if the weather holds, it should be a record breaker. The Fair started on Friday, July 31, and will run through Sunday, August 9.

Regular fall rehearsals will start on Monday, Sept. 14 at 7:30 p.m. We are looking forward to a busy year of singing and getting ready for the 2016 Sioux Falls NSAA Sangerfest.

Plans have been made for another bus trip to Minneapolis in October. Plays and sightseeing, as well as a

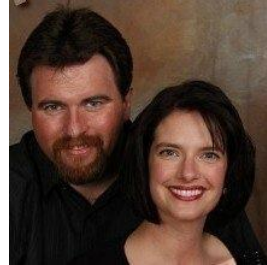
concert at one of the churches in the cities are on the agenda.

Respectfully submitted,



John Rasmusson Corr. Sec.

**Mandskor Member Spotlight**



Tony and Bobbie Jo Leggett

Tony Leggett has been a member of Mandskor first tenor section since 2013. A Sioux Falls native, he graduated from O'Gorman High School and then achieved a degree in Vocal Music from Augustana College. Although he had a brief stint with the Mandskor immediately after graduating, he was not able to continue due to family obligations.

Tony works along side his father at their local business, Fireplace Professionals, Inc. He has continued to stay as busy as possible with vocal music by cantoring, singing tenor in local chamber group Prairie Song, acting in musicals at the Orpheum, and most recently singing with Sounds of South Dakota. Other interests include running, biking, fishing, hunting and traveling.

Tony is married to Bobbie Jo, who is director of caregiver outreach at Active Generations. Together their lives are blessed with Annalee, 17; Hollie, 15; and 1 year old Elijah (Eli).

**BJORNSON MALE CHORUS****Chicago IL**

Dear Singer Brothers and Ladies,

On Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, the Bjornson Male Chorus celebrated its 91<sup>st</sup> anniversary with a traditional Dinner/Concert and dancing to the music of the Dave Kyrk Combo. After over 40 years of listening and dancing to Dave's mostly Scandinavian-style music, he is retiring after this year. Dave's accordion and singing will be sorely missed by many of us in the Chicago-land Scandinavian community.

Jerry Andersen reminded us that it was Jimmy Sorensen's 88<sup>th</sup> birthday. Following the concert we all went to Esther and Jimmy's table and sang a rousing rendition of *Happy Birthday*, which of course included *og give lenge, lenge, lenge live* and also *Han skal leve*, musts for anyone either Danish or from the old Danish Chorus *Harmonien*. Unfortunately, due to health issues, Jimmy is no longer able to join us on the line, but is always with us in spirit.

Next, we are going to mention two gentlemen in their 80s who absolutely stole the show: Ken Michaels and Don Lemont from the Chicago Swedish Glee Club. They sang an outstanding rendition of *The Pearl Fishers* with Ed Kramer's excellent piano. We are all familiar with Ken's great tenor voice, but not so with Don's powerful bass/baritone. Needless to say, they received a well-deserved standing ovation.

Wayne Spies always felt music helped people live a longer life. These two fellows make Wayne seem like a pretty fair prophet. The camaraderie of music, dining and dancing made a wonderful evening for all.

Hey Rog (he's BMC's VP), thanks for the info on our colorful past. As we look to the future, let's keep on singing before we run out of breath!

Our last gig was at the Danish Retirement Home in Chicago on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Their annual picnic is always on the last Sunday in June. We sang three songs in addition to the National Anthems. The crowd enjoyed our program, and we enjoyed the Afterglow fine refreshments of Danish open-faced sandwiches and aquavit. First Class!

On a sad note, Sally Hoppe, wife of our second bass Ron Hoppe, passed away in mid-July after struggling with several serious health issues. Our hearts and prayers go out to Ron and his family.

*Leve Sangen,*



George Michals, Corr. Sec.

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

Scandinavian Day at Minnehaha Park was rated a success by most, but UGH the parking. More buses and fewer cars need to be promoted for next year.

Our Glee Club summer picnic will be hosted again by Anne Lise and Bent Paulsen with help from our great Auxiliary ladies. Always wonderful food and fellowship as we start to wind down the summer and prepare for practices and concerts. A special thanks to the Paulsens for making their lovely home available.

Dear friend and long-time member Clarence Hanson was again in the

hospital. Bjorn Lasserud also spent some time in the hospital. This warm and humid weather is not a help to any of us. Our beautiful and comfortable Fall will be very welcome. Our resort and cabin season at many popular locations was severely impacted by severe storms, and the lakes warmed up so early that June fishing was not so good. (I can attest to that.)

We are going to find out this Fall if our loyal lutefisk diners will respond in the same numbers when we move to a different location. Our regular location, the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Edina, is still working on some repairs and remodeling, requiring us to find a facility for our Fall dinner.

The fine folks at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 715 Minnetonka Mills Road in Hopkins, came to our rescue. Same great fish, same great service, and Glee Club singing between sittings. Hard to beat.

Always interesting advice is available in the country, such as these:

“NOTICE: This property is a farm. Animals make funny sounds, smell bad, and have sex outdoors. Unless you can tolerate noise, odor and outdoor sex, don’t buy property next to a farm.”

Another sign said, “Do not cross this pasture unless you can do it in 9 seconds, because the bull can do it in 10.” Yes, wisdom from the great prairies.



Charles Engh, Corr. Sec.

## EDVARD GRIEG CHORUS

### Madison, WI

Our Chorus is currently on summer recess, but a group of members sang the National Anthem at the Mallards baseball game on August 3. It was an exciting game, and the Mallards prevailed over the Blue Anchors of Alexandria, MN 6 to 5.

Currently there is a development that is of particular interest to the Chorus and the Norwegian community of southwest Wisconsin. Two years ago Little Norway in Blue Mounds was forced to close for financial reasons. The 40-acre property depicting the life of early Norwegian settlers opened to the public in 1937.

It included an authentic stave church, a collection of log buildings, a natural spring and picnic grounds. The museum and buildings displayed over 7,000 Norwegian artifacts. The owner of the popular tourist attraction indicated that the reason for the closure was that the costs of maintaining the buildings and related displays significantly exceeded annual revenues.

An attempt was made to sell the operation to a non-profit organization, but that failed. The future of the stave church is of particular interest. It was originally built in Orkdal, Norway and then taken apart and shipped to the United States as part of the Norwegian exhibit at the 1893 World’s Columbian Exhibition in Chicago. The church was based on a stave church in Gol, Norway and was constructed in just three months along a fjord west of Trondheim and north of Oslo.

After the six-month World’s Fair in Chicago, the building was



disassembled and moved to the Wrigley estate along the north shore of Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. In 1935 the church was disassembled again and shipped to the Blue Mounds property of Osten Olson Haugen who had immigrated in the mid 1800s, and it quickly became the centerpiece of Little Norway.

The stave church is on the move again! In April a delegation from Orkdal visited Little Norway to evaluate the condition of the church and determine the feasibility of taking it apart one more time and returning it to Norway. After 122 years, the building was found to be structurally sound. In fact, the craftsmen discovered the sequence of numbers inside the church that were used in the previous disassembly and reassembly projects. The City Council of Orkdal agreed to move forward with the effort and provided \$800,000 for the purchase of the building, disassembly and shipping to Norway.

The Edvard Grieg Chorus has had a long and special relationship with Little Norway. Over the past several years our Chorus was invited to perform for the Little Norway Summer Solstice celebration that always included a picnic, the parade of Norwegian costumes and the traditional dance around the bonfire. Our Chorus recently received an invitation to sing for the farewell gathering on Sunday, September 6. There will be an official delegation coming from Orkdal for this special program. Disassembly of the stave church will begin the next day. What a great way to say goodbye to this historic gem.



Dick Johnston, Corr. Sec.  
(from Ed. Johnston hopes to have pictures of the Stave Church event in his next report.)

### NORSE GLEE CLUB

Sioux Falls, South Dakota

For us, this summer has been and continues to be a quiet time. The previous couple of years saw us performing at a significant number of church and community anniversary celebrations. This year there has been a lull.

Reflecting first, we participated in the Sioux Valley Singers Association (SVSA) SangerFest held at Sioux City, IA on June 13<sup>th</sup>. We were able to field only 16 of our 26 members due to illness, infirmities, and other obligations.

Nonetheless, we folded into the collection of some 80 voices quite well. The several hundred persons in the audience showed sincere appreciation for the group's efforts. Many in the audience were members and friends of the Morningside Lutheran Church where we performed.

We (the Norse Glee Club) would like to thank Ed Stone, and the Nordic Male Chorus, for their efforts in hosting this year's concert. We have stepped forward, and volunteered to host the 2017 SVSA Sangerfest here in Sioux Falls. This action was approved at the SVSA business meeting earlier that day. We hope we

can do as well as the Nordic Male Chorus did.

Also at the business meeting that day, the following individuals were elected officers of the SVSA for 2015-2017:

President: David Lien  
 Vice President: Ray Schnabel  
 Secretary: Ron Beck  
 Treasurer: David Stene  
 Marshal: Bob Tiedemann  
 Director: Terry Walter  
 Associate Director: Lyle Kroon

Sadly, I wish to report the passing of the wife of one of our members. DORIS H. NELSON, age 96, died on June 24, 2015 at her home in Sioux Falls. She and her husband, MARVIN, had been married for 74 years. Marvin, age 98, sings 1<sup>st</sup> tenor with us as he is able.

Doris was an active person, having taught home economics for over 40 years, as well as fully supporting our Norse Glee Club auxiliary. She is remembered by current auxiliary members as being cheerful, faithful, and a hard worker for all their events.

The Glee Club was asked, and was honored, to perform at her funeral on June 29, 2015. We sang "Beautiful Savior," in both English and Norwegian texts. Our heartfelt condolences have been extended to Marvin and his family upon the occasion of our collective loss.

Our Fall rehearsals start September 14<sup>th</sup>. The 2016 SangerFest program that was provided to all in the last Sanger-Hilsen issue surely indicates where the challenges lie, and where our focus will need to be over the coming months.

One activity item we have recently deferred to our September business meeting is consideration as to whether

we are still able to host a Lutefisk supper this year. Our decision and plans will be contingent on coordination with groups and individuals that have historically supported us. If held, the supper will be in early November.



Gail Kristensen, Corr. Sec.

### HARMONY SINGING SOCIETY Rockford IL

We sang at two locations June 20, 2015.

Our combined choruses, Harmony Singing Society and Sveas Söner Chorus, sang for the Swedish Historical Society at the annual Mid Sommer Festival, held the 3rd Saturday in June every year. The beautiful Erlander Home is the setting for the festival, with lots of Swedish crafters, Swedish pancakes from the Stockholm Inn and lingonberries for sale and of course Swedish coffee.

The Maypole dance was after the performance of the Sveas Söner joined by the Harmony Singing Society. That was a treat for some who had not seen the traditional dance done before.

Later in the evening our combined choruses were invited by the Belvidere, Illinois Rotary to sing at a fund raiser dinner. The dinner was to raise money for the four young people going to Germany for the 2015-2016 school year. After we sang we enjoyed pie and coffee.



Harmony sings for Illinois Rotary.

We are looking forward to the Fall season. We will be singing September 12th at Bethesda Covenant Church's annual Alley Walk.



Steve James, Corr. Sec.

### LUREN SINGING SOCIETY Decorah IA

A death notice in the Minneapolis Star-Tribune around July 1<sup>st</sup> caught my eye. It told of the death of a former Luren member, Rev. David A. Lee on June 26<sup>th</sup> at Southport NC.

Pastor Lee was born 27 Nov. 1930 in Hankow China to missionary parents. His mother was one of several daughters in the Nummedal family who grew up in the Kenyon MN area and married pastors who went out to China.

David graduated from St. Olaf College in 1954, the same year he and Lorraine Myli were married. After he graduated from Luther Seminary, he accepted a Call to the Burr Oak-Hesper Lutheran parish north of Decorah, where he served 1958-62. During those years he sang tenor with the Luren Singers.

The Lee family returned to serve as missionaries in Hong Kong from 1964-73 and 74-78, as well as mission interpreters during two furlough stints.

When they returned from Hong Kong, they served parishes in Virginia and West Virginia.

The highlight of our summer was the concert tour to Norway, which is featured in this issue. We had *fint vær* (fine weather) with just a couple of cool and cloudy days in the Trondheim area. We had no rain in Bergen!

It is risky to schedule such a tour in the time that school gets out and the vacations begin. But the local hosts did a fine job of advertising and the attendance at our five concerts was excellent and enthusiastic. We were warmly welcomed by our hosts

Each of us on the tour would select a different favorite place, concert or other event. The welcome events by several host choruses were delightful, and the meals, hospitality and fellowship were outstanding. Many pictures were taken and not just of fjords and waterfalls. (We did not eat fish at every meal!)

We had only a few casualties in the health category, and they came later in the tour. A few of us stayed some extra days; most of us added one day in Reykjavik, Iceland on our way back.

Upon landing in Minneapolis, we were *ögretedö* by an announcement that the airport was in a severe weather area. Fortunately, by the time we got our baggage, went through customs and boarded our Hawkeye Stages bus for Decorah, the system had passed.

A week later we were busy getting ready for our big fund-raising project of manning the Luren Food Stand at the Fair. Truly we had *öfairö* weather with favorable temperatures. Profits look to be above previous years, so we should be able to afford Sangerfest 2016 in Sioux Falls.

We were dancing with the Trolls during Nordic Fest in late July. We had our usual spot for the Opening on Thursday evening, then our outdoor concert on Friday evening, and float in the Saturday morning parade. A special treat was having Kai Robert Johansen from Sarpsborg, Norway, an outstanding trumpet player, accompany us on *One Faith, One Hope, One Lord*, which he had done with us at our last concert in Eidsberg Kirke. Also, many of us hosted some of the members of the guest Norsk male chorus, *Ørlandet Sangforening* during the days they were at the Fest.

We will resume rehearsals on Sept. 14. We intend to recruit new members and/or regain former ones as we head toward our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of 2018. At one of our first sessions in September we will ratify the election of officers that was held last May.

Not officially approved yet, but probably a done deal, is our first gig of the new singing year. We will take part in a concert at Decorah Lutheran Church on Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m. This is to be a fund-raising event to purchase a new piano (grand?) at the church. Our companion group, Northern Lights and also Decorah Chorale will join us for singing as individual groups and a few selections together. Nothing is in the plans yet about refreshments after the concert, but I would guess there will be.

We await other invitations before we begin work on the Christmas concert.



Don Berg, Corr. Sec.

## GRIEG MALE CHORUS

### Canton SD

Members of the Grieg Male Chorus participated in the 49<sup>th</sup> Biennial Sioux Valley Singers Association Sangerfest, held at Morningside Lutheran Church, Sioux City, Iowa, on June 13, 2015. This year's event was hosted by the Nordic Male Chorus of Sioux City. Our sincere thanks to the Nordic Chorus for all their preparations to making an enjoyable day for all attending. Congratulations on a successful Sangerfest celebration.

Aug. 10<sup>th</sup>, members of Grieg met at Moe Parish Park for the annual picnic. We enjoyed perfect weather, an abundance of food and great fellowship. It has become tradition at this event for director Lane Karli to ask each member about events in their lives since we last met. Responses varied from vacation stories, unexpected health issues, family weddings, new grandchildren, building new homes, class reunions (with our member receiving prize for man with most hair), work-related experiences with life-saving detail, and one octogenarian member totaling over 1200 miles on biking trails. It has become a part that everyone looks forward to, as we share the events in our chorus family lives.

The Grieg Male Chorus will begin regular weekly rehearsals the second Monday in September.



Jerry Holter, Corr. Sec.

**LUREN IN NORWAY****16-29 JUNE 2015**

One of the best ways to build *esprit de corps*, to further relationships with others from distant lands, or to just have a great time, is to take a choir tour to a foreign country. The Luren Singers took such a trip to Norway this past June. We collaborated with four choirs from Norway to present joint concerts with them, and also gave a full concert in Voss all by ourselves.

We sang to full houses at each concert ó at two of the venues there was standing room only. We saw some of the most spectacular, exciting scenery in the entire world ó Geirangerfjord, Nærøyfjord, the Trollstigen, Aurlandsfjord, the Flåm railway, the Sognefjord, the Telemark Canal, and the beautiful cities of Trondheim, Bergen, Oslo, and their surrounding areas. Most of the group were able to spend an overnight in Reykjavik, Iceland, on the return to the U. S. This was an ambitious trip packed full of activities and singing.

There are so many folks to thank for making this trip a success ó Larry Lubbert and Janet Tollund, for creating this amazing adventure. Also a special thank you to Charles and Judy Berdahl, and Don Cooper and Terry Walter for leaving Sioux Falls and joining us on this journey.

We couldn't have had such incredible concerts without our talented and versatile set of collaborative instrumentalists: Karla Bicknese, Terry Walter, Jeremiah Bicknese, Caleb Sander, and Emily Bicknese. Thanks also to our fine soloists: Loren Hartley, Dan Alstad, and Dennis Barnaal.

I would strongly encourage other choruses to plan a trip to Norway. It does wonders for the group, musically and otherwise.

This was an adventure we will not soon forget.

Dave Judisch, Director, Luren Singers



**PACIFIC COAST NORWEGIAN  
SINGERS ASSOCIATION**

**SANGERFEST 2015**

The Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers Association held its 106<sup>th</sup> annual Sangerfest in Salem, Oregon on June 18-20, 2015. The Thorsmen of Salem, celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding, hosted the event at the Red Lion Inn.

Over three days, 101 singers, along with family members and friends, had the opportunity to renew friendships, enjoy performances by individual choruses, socialize over luncheons and dinners, participate in the annual business meeting, and attend the Grand Concert of the combined choruses.

The Grand Concert was held at the West Salem High School Auditorium. Under the direction of Peter Butler and Paul May, from the Thorsmen Chorus of Salem and the San Diego Mannskor respectively, the massed choirs performed 15 choral selections. All of the solos were performed by member singers of the PCNSA, and piano accompaniments were provided by Jeff Highland, President of the PCNSA, and Lagea Preuit, the Thorsmen's accompanist.

(to be continued)

submitted by Jeffrey Highland,  
Immediate Past President-PCNSA.

## Norwegian Singers Association of America, Inc.

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

### ILLINOIS CHICAGO

#### Bjornson Male Chorus

Rehearsals: Each Tuesday 8:00 p.m. at V.F.W. Hall; Camfield and Higgins Road, Park Ridge, IL 60068. President: John Lee, 738 Bent Ridge Lane, Elgin, IL 60120. tel. (847) 741-4210; Secretary: George Michals, 5236 Arlington Drive West, Hanover Park, IL 60103 (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](mailto:thorfjell@comcast.net). Recording Secretary: Frank Potempa, 1788 W. Sherwood Rd., [fcpotempa@shcglobal.net](mailto:fcpotempa@shcglobal.net) Director: Charles Kessell, 6042 W. Grace St., Chicago, IL 60634. Tel: (773)481-5941, cell (773)858-5325, [perc55@juno.com](mailto:perc55@juno.com).

### ROCKFORD

#### Harmony Singing Society

Rehearsal each Tuesday 7:00 p.m. at our Club: 1104 15<sup>th</sup> Ave. Rockford, IL 61104. President: Jim Wolf, 1104 15<sup>th</sup> Ave., Rockford, IL 61104, tel (815) 965-7833.; Corresponding Secretary: Steve James, 625 Dawson Ave., Rockford IL 61107. tel. (815)601-3813. [stevej1945@comcast.net](mailto:stevej1945@comcast.net). Director: Sherry Dreyfuss, 11665 Glen Eagles Lane, Belvidere IL 61008. Tel (815)978-2245. [swedishcantor@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:regors5@juno.com); Director: Charles Schuett, 5040 Stone Ave., Sioux City, IA 51106, tel. (712) 276-2328, [scschuett@aol.com](mailto:scschuett@aol.com).

### DECORAH

#### Luren Singing Society

Rehearsal: Every Monday night, 7:30 p.m. at Thomas Roberts High School. President: Ken Larson, 210 Iowa Ave. Decorah IA 52101. tel. (563)382-8167. [larsonke@luther.edu](mailto:larsonke@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](mailto:judiscda@luther.edu).

### MINNESOTA

#### MINNEAPOLIS

##### Norwegian Glee Club

Rehearsal: Each Thursday evening at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 4801 France Ave. So., Edina, MN. President: Robert O. Olson, 7442 Pillsbury Ave S, Richfield MN 55423-4115; tel. (612)866-0687, [bobjoolson@comcast.net](mailto:bobjoolson@comcast.net) ; Corresponding Secretary: Charles Engh, 7642 Prairie Flower Blvd., Chanhassen, MN 55317, tel. (952)401-8838; [cbengh@hotmail.com](mailto:cbengh@hotmail.com) Director: Carsten Slostad, 1065 Portland Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104-7011; tel. (651) 291-8639 [carstonian@hotmail.com](mailto:carstonian@hotmail.com) .

### SOUTH DAKOTA

#### SIOUX FALLS

##### Minnehaha Mandskor

Rehearsal: Each Monday, 7:30 p.m. at Center For Active Generations, 2300 W. 46<sup>th</sup> St., Sioux Falls, SD. President: Marlan Velgersdyk, 4509 S. Magnolia Ave. Sioux Falls, SD 57103. tel. (605) 371-0669. [mcvelgersdyk@midco.net](mailto:mcvelgersdyk@midco.net) Corr. Secretary: John Rasmusson, 4312 W. 58<sup>th</sup> St. #109, Sioux Falls SD 57108, tel. (605)271-0838. [jpras@midco.net](mailto:jpras@midco.net) Director: Terry Walter, 2708 West Oak St., Sioux Falls, SD 57105, tel. (605) 339 0607, [clefdwellers\\_on\\_oak@juno.com](mailto:clefdwellers_on_oak@juno.com).

##### Norse Glee Club

Rehearsal: Each Monday, 7:30 p.m. at Nordic Hall. President: Steve Espeland, 48304 278<sup>th</sup> St, Canton SD 57103. Tel (605)987-5720; Corresponding Secretary: Gail Kristensen, 111 W. 17<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:ringshanks@iw.net) Corresponding Secretary: Jerry Holter, 28724 480<sup>th</sup> Ave., Canton, SD 57013, tel. (605) 987-2161; Director: Lane Karli, 3401 S. Grace Ave., Sioux Falls SD 57103-7219, (605) 275-5591. [lkarli@sio.midco.net](mailto:lkarli@sio.midco.net)

### WISCONSIN

#### MADISON

##### Edvard Grieg Chorus

2262 Winnebago, Madison, WI 53704  
 Rehearsal: Each Tuesday, 7 p.m. President: Steve Christenson, 519 N. Harrison St., Stoughton WI 53579, (608) 873-9846 [stevekrisC@yahoo.com](mailto:stevekrisC@yahoo.com); Corresponding Secretary: Dick Johnston, 26 Chautauqua Tr., Madison WI 53719, (608) 833-6284 ; Director: Mark W. Everson, 711 Highway #106, Edgerton, WI 53534, tel. (608) 884-9398 [evers11111@aol.com](mailto:evers11111@aol.com).

### SIOUX VALLEY SINGERS ASSOCIATION

#### OFFICERS:

President:: David Lien, 1800 S. Splitrock Blvs, Brandon SD. 57005. Vice President: Ray Schnabel, 2201 Pebble Beach Ln, Brandon SD 59005. Secretary: Ronald Beck, 28206 465<sup>th</sup> St., Lennox, SD 57039, tel. (605) 647-2851, [beckparadoxr@speednet.com](mailto: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](mailto:clefdwellers_on_oak@juno.com); Assoc. Director: Lyle E. Kroon, 1216 Sunset Drive, Sioux Falls, SD 57105, tel. (605) 335-1624.

**PACIFIC COAST NORWEGIAN  
SINGERS ASSOCIATION**

**OFFICERS:**

President: Pete Petersen, 713 E 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. Ellensburg WA 98926, (509) 607-9406 [p.petersen@gmail.com](mailto:p.petersen@gmail.com). Vice President: Jeffrey Highland; 76 Utsalady Road, Camano Island, WA 98292. (360)387-5285 [highland@smumn.edu](mailto:highland@smumn.edu). Secretary: Phil Overlund, 11556 Shadow Ranch Rd; La Mesa CA 91941, (619)660-1125 [jpoverlund@cox.net](mailto:jpoverlund@cox.net). Treasurer: Rick Olson, 8726 Shadowwood Dr, Everett WA 98208, (425)337-0795, [olymeister20@comcast.net](mailto:olymeister20@comcast.net); Trustees: California: Don Stewart, 5476 Forbes Ave., San Diego CA 92129-1892 (619)287-7812, [dstewart73@att.net](mailto:dstewart73@att.net); Oregon: Mike Bagaason, 2460 Bailey Hill Rd, Eugene OR 97405, (541)687-2562, [bagaason@riouasa.com](mailto:bagaason@riouasa.com); Washington: Allen Feris, 23514 135<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Arlington WA 98223, (360)435-3144, [feris.allen@msn.com](mailto:feris.allen@msn.com). Trustee at Large: Allen Feris, 23514 135<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Arlington WA 98223, (360)435-3144, [feris.allen@msn.com](mailto:feris.allen@msn.com); Director-in-Chief: Steve Jensen, 5919 Fazon Rd., Bellingham, WA 98226, cell phone (360)303-3919, [stjensen@earthlink.net](mailto:stjensen@earthlink.net); Asst. Director-in-Chief: Erik Eliason, 8115 49<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Marysville WA 98270. Tel. (425)328-9807, [erik.eliason@hotmail.com](mailto:erik.eliason@hotmail.com).

**CALIFORNIA**

**OAKLAND**

**Normanna Glee Club**

Rehearsal: time and place unknown

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

**SAN DIEGO**

**San Diego Mannskor**

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](mailto:svenio@cox.net); Secretary: Jon Homerud, 3354 Bonica Woods Dr., Bnita, CA 91902 (619)223-2784 [holmerud@cox.net](mailto:holmerud@cox.net); Director: Paul May, tel. (619)227-9979 [paulthomasmay@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:desperum@gmail.com); Director: Ed Amundson, 29453 Culver Lane, Junction City OR 97448-9438. tel. (541) 998-6329 [amundson@peak.org](mailto:amundson@peak.org)

**SALEM**

**Thorsmen**

Rehearsal: Each Monday at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Cross Lutheran Church Annex, 1198 Lanning Avenue North East, Salem, OR 97303. President: Paul Flora, tel. (503)363-9753 [paul.flora@pgn.com](mailto:paul.flora@pgn.com); Secretary: Wes Anderson, tel. (503)363-1714 [wander@comcast.net](mailto:wander@comcast.net); Director: Peter Butler, 31869 Eastway, Lebanon, OR 97355, tel. (503) 259-2006, [whitewolf372@centurytel.net](mailto: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, 5919 Fazon Rd., Bellingham, WA 98226, cell phone (360)303-3919, [stjensen@earthlink.net](mailto:stjensen@earthlink.net).

**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](mailto:craig_fredlund@jamco-america.com). Secretary: Robert Bruland, tel. (425)335-1150 [burland2@comcast.net](mailto:burland2@comcast.net). Director: Steve Jensen, 5919 Fazon Rd., Bellingham, WA 98226, cell phone (360)303-3919, [stjensen@earthlink.net](mailto:stjensen@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: Warren Rosvold, (360)930-0504, [wrosvold@gmail.com](mailto:wrosvold@gmail.com); Director: Kathy Haug, 21050 Fern St. Indianola WA 98342. Tel. (360) 908-9806. [Kathy@meland.com](mailto:Kathy@meland.com).

**SEATTLE**

**Norwegian Male Chorus**

Rehearsal: Every Monday evening 7:30 p.m. Nordic Heritage Museum, 3014 N.W. 67<sup>th</sup> Street, Seattle, WA 98117. Officers: President: Jens Eysteinnson, tel. (205)799-8000, [JensEysteinnson@AmericanSeaffods.com](mailto:JensEysteinnson@AmericanSeaffods.com). Secretary: Rolf Federspiel, tel. (425)823-9080, [farfarfed77@frontier.com](mailto:farfarfed77@frontier.com). Director: G. Robert Johnston, 4707 NE 192 Pl., Lake Forest Park, 98155, tel. (206)362-1094, [bobsings@gohuskies.com](mailto:bobsings@gohuskies.com)

**Skagit Valley Manskor**

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

Rehearsal every Monday at 7:00 PM at Abel Lodge, 21098 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Conway WA 98238. Officers: President: Jeff Highland tel. (360)387-5285, [highland@smumn.edu](mailto:highland@smumn.edu). Secretary Skip Ingraham tel (360)387-6168. Director Steve Jensen, 5919 Fazon Rd., Bellingham, WA 98226, cell phone (360)303-3919, [stjensen@earthlink.net](mailto:stjensen@earthlink.net)

**TACOMA**

**Normanna Male Chorus**

Rehearsal: Each Monday 7:00 p.m., Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 3315 South 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Tacoma, Wash. President: Pete Petersen, tel.(509)607-9406, [p.petersen@gmail.com](mailto:p.petersen@gmail.com). Secretary: Loren Jangaard, 5917 34<sup>th</sup> St NW, Gig Harbor WA 98335, tel. (252)265-2312, [jangaard@hatmail.com](mailto:jangaard@hatmail.com); Director: Jon Malmin, 14211 Peacock Hill Ave, Gig Harbor WA 98332, (tel) (253)514-8677, [jmalmin2@comcast.net](mailto:jmalmin2@comcast.net)



Most of the 70 member 2015 Luren Norway Tour appear in this photo at the St. Hans fest the night of June 23 at Laksevåg, a suburb of Bergen. The stacks of some 400 empty wooden barrels behind the group became bonfires in the evening for this midsummer festival; the small stack was burned first for the children.