



VOLUME 106, NO. 4**DECORAH, IA JULY-AUG. 2016**

**Introducing our new NSAA
President**

Roger Buhr was born east of Sumner IA in 1938. He was the second child of Bernard and Helen Buhr. He received a BA degree from Wartburg College in 1959. Roger received a B.D. degree from Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque in 1963; this degree was later declared an M.Th. degree by the seminary.

Roger served four parishes during his 37 years of active ministry. During his ministry he served on various boards and committees on the conference and synod level.

Roger and Gale Decker were married in 1965, and have a daughter, Pr. Anjanette (Warren) Bandel of Rochester MN, and a son, Audric (Lisa) of Menomonie WI. They have six grandchildren.

Roger and Gale retired to Decorah IA in 2000, where he continued to do supply preaching. As a member of Decorah Lutheran Church, he served on the New Hymnal Task Force, sang in the Adult Choir, and worked on other committees.

Roger joined Luren soon after arriving in Decorah. He is very active as a Master Gardener. He was an accredited master flower show judge with the National Garden Clubs, Inc,

and a member of the National Flower Show Schools Committee from 2009-2015.

At Vesterheim Museum in Decorah and at the John Campbell Folk School in North Carolina, Roger has taught classes in Hedeboøm, a form of Danish needlework.



Roger Buhr
NSAA President 2016-2018

President's Message

As the new president of the Norwegian Singers Association of America I would like to take some time to reflect on the goals of our organization as stated in Article II of our constitution. One of them is to promote love for Scandinavian male chorus music.

When I retired and moved to Decorah 16 years ago, I was invited to join Luren Singers. I have no

Norwegian ancestry or heritage, but I had heard good things about this male chorus and their activities. At my first rehearsal we sang a couple of Norwegian pieces. Fortunately I had taken a six-week course in Norwegian some years ago, so I had a little familiarity with the language.

However, I had never sung any Scandinavian music, so this was new to me. I öbuggedö a few of the öold timersö to give me English translations so that I knew the meaning of the words. That helped me to understand the mood, tempo, and dynamics of the music.

In my 15 years with Luren and at Sangerfests we have sung in Norwegian, Danish, and Swedish. The pieces have been rousing national favorites, about the beauty of Norway, beloved folk songs, melodic waltzes, wedding marches, Christian hymns, and famous pieces by Edvard Grieg and other Scandinavian composers.

So when inviting new people to join your chorus, tell them that they will have öa new adventure in the world of music,ö but be sure to provide them (and your audiences) with English translations. By the way, many are available on our NSAA website.

(The following article was received from John Rasmusson only a few days before he died. Ed.)

MINNEHAHA MANDSKOR

Sioux Falls SD

SANGERFEST 2016

The most recent NSAA Sangerfest, in Sioux Falls, hosted by Sioux Valley



The Sioux Valley Singers directors sang a song of welcome to begin the 2016 Sangerfest opening rehearsal.



Sioux Valley Singers lead off the Parade of Choruses program.

Mandskor) is over, but not quite done. Final accounting is finished, and just a few minor details are left to be ironed out. According to reports, it was a grand success in almost all respects. Advance planning, guided by Mandskor President Marlan Velgersdyk, was detailed and complete. Director-In-Chief David Judisch, and Assistant DIC Terry Walter did a marvelous job of putting the final touches on the Parade of Choruses and Grand Concert programs.

The singers, of course, were the essence, backed up by the directors, accompanist, orchestra, and soloists, in the finest Sangerfest tradition. The

choruses were well prepared, and presented themselves well in their individual chorus outfits at Parade, and formal white jackets at Grand. Soloists were talented and professional.

The SVS auxiliaries made a major impact, carrying out a well planned program of activities, vendor booths, and welcoming of arrivals. As always, the Afterglows and Banquet were highlights. All in all, the Sangerfest experience was memorable and extremely enjoyable.

The SVS Sangerfest 2016 Committee and the Auxiliary committee members met at the Touch-Of-Dutch Restaurant in Beresford SD on Tuesday, July 26 for a final wrap up of the event.

OTHER NEWSí

SIoux EMPIRE FAIRí A young tradition for Mandskor, the Chislic-Kuchen Booth Fundraiser at the Fair, is in progress as this article is being written. Besides the booth itself, newly remodeled by several of our skilled members, work schedules are done and fine tuned, chislic (lamb) is in the freezer, kuchen is baking, and we are looking forward to another successful year. Opening is Friday, August 5, and the last day will be Sunday, August 14. The chorus will sing at the Front Porch at noon on Saturday, August 6.

SUMMER OUTINGí On Monday, August 1, members and wives enjoyed a get-together at Director Terry Walter and husband Don Cooper's shop in Tea SD. Don's collection of automobiles was on display, and made available for driving/riding before the picnic. After the meal, the chorus rehearsed for the concert at Dow Rummel Village the next evening.



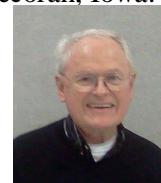
Mandskor summer outing. Notice the empty chair left by John Rasmusson as he snapped this picture.

SINGOUTSí The aforementioned concert at the Fair on August 6, and the Dow Rummel performance on August 2 were the only public appearances for Mandskor since June.

Our active season starts after the September 12 kickoff rehearsal.

FALL TRIPí Director Terry has made arrangements for the annual trip to Minneapolis on Saturday-Sunday, September 15-16. As in the past, the agenda will include lunch and an afternoon play at Chanhassen, and the evening production at the Kelley Inn in Plymouth. Plans for a Sunday morning concert at one of the area churches are incomplete at this time.

IN CONCLUSIONí The members of Mandskor and the Auxiliary, as well as the other choruses in SVSA, appreciate the excellent response from all of the NSAA choruses in their attendance and performance at Sangerfest 2016 in Sioux Falls. We anticipate with pleasure the next Sangerfest in 2018, at Decorah, Iowa.



John Rasmusson, Corr. Sec.

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.

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407 Leif Erikson Drive

Decorah, IA 52101

www.nsaaonline.org

Subscription price \$20.00 per year

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Periodicals postage paid at Decorah, Iowa.

Sanger-Hilsen USPS 481-380

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**DEADLINE FOR
Sept.-Oct. 2016 ISSUE
Oct. 12, 2016.**

Message from Dr. Judisch

Dear Brother Singers,

Thank you to everyone who contributed to making the 2016 Sangerfest such a huge success! Marlan Velgersdyk and Terry Walter, particularly, should be acknowledged for their leadership before and during the Fest. Everyone from the Sioux Valley Singers Association ó to you a very hearty congratulations!

My personal gratitude to the fine music directors we have across the Association. Their leadership and musical skills were obvious not only for the fine Grand Concert we had, but also for the outstanding Parade of Choruses concert (one of the finest in recent memory). I am so proud of all you singers for your great cooperation and for your mastery of the music that we performed together. Thanks to all the professional-level musicians who played or sang solos for us.

I look forward to our next gathering right here in Decorah, Iowa, in 2018.

Best wishes to you all!

Tusen takk!!



Dave Judisch,
Director-in-Chief, NSAA

**NORMENNENES SINGING
SOCIETY
Chicago IL**

The Chorus has been enjoying its summer break and is looking forward to our Fall season. We all have great memories of a wonderful Sangerfest. Congratulations are certainly due for the efforts involved with such a major accomplishment.

On May 22nd, a wonderful party was hosted by the family of Henry

and Marit Carlson. It was a dual celebration of their 65th Wedding Anniversary and his 90th birthday. There were 80+ participants enjoying a wonderful dinner and social aspects of the day. The Chorus also performed two of Henry's favorites: *Nidelven* and *Rett Som Ornen Stiger*.

The music committee has been busy planning our activities for the upcoming season. Foremost on the schedule is our anniversary celebration in October. There are also other opportunities we are investigating. Our first rehearsal is set for Aug. 16th.

We were surprised with the news of health issues for brother-singer Dan Boyle. He recently had surgery to mend a carotid artery. Also Director Chuck Kessell had out-patient surgery to correct kidney stones. Our prayers and best wishes are extended to them.

Leve Sangen,



Thor Fjell

**NORDIC MALE CHORUS
Sioux City IA**

With the music and fellowship of the 61st biennial NSAA Sangerfest pleasantly echoing, the Nordics have meantime enjoyed a summer hiatus.

The Chorus, wives and spouses were pleased to be part of the highly successful event, and particularly enjoyed the many reunions and meeting of new friends at the Registration Desk. They also had kudos for the work of the other host choruses.

When the Chorus again meets in September, we will be looking

forward to a dinner marking the 125th year of organization. The Chorus formally organized in 1891 as the *Normaendenes Sangforening* and proudly hosted its first national Sangerfest in 1894. They have continued in the inspiration of singing, fellowship and the Scandinavian heritage of fine choral music.

Director Chuck Schuett has purchased some new music and will be on hand again to direct the Nordics in Christmas programs and to prepare the group later on for the off-year Sioux Valley Singers Sangerfest in 2017.

One of the favorite jokes from the June Sangerfest: ðOle married an Amish woman. He's driving her buggy.ö



Bob Hansen, Corr. Sec.

NORWEGIAN GLEE CLUB Minneapolis MN

I have always considered July Fourth the tipping point. Summer is half over and we are now tipping to our beautiful Fall and the less-than-beautiful Winter. It all happens so fast, with no slowing it down.

I have heard so many good things about the Sangerfest, which is not surprising as I have always maintained that a lot of good things come from South Dakota. The fact that I lived in Yankton in ø1 and ø2 possibly has had some influence in my judgment. Maybe for the future the Sangerfests should alternate between Sioux Falls and Decorah where there

is such strong financial and civic local support.

We wound up our singing season with our annual Minnehaha Park event (now designated Scandinavian Day), as the Swedes have joined us. These extra cars make parking horrific, but it is great to see the additional displays and attendance. The traditional greeting by one of our State politicians (the Senior Senator) took advantage of the opportunity for some lengthy oratory beyond the allotted time, but the children still got in their colorful parade, which is always a highlight of this great event.

Another Summer gig was at the Danish Mid-Summer gathering at the ðbarn.ö I wasn't there for the climax, the big bonfire that drove the witch back to Wisconsin. I think that is as far as she had to go, but I may be wrong. Sometimes the Danes sort of color their stories, but we still have high regard for them. I still insist the best Aquavit comes from Norway.

Business Manager Ted Anderson, I understand, might be starting our Fall gigs in August, shortening even more our brief summer vacation. We might have to slow him down, by cutting his salary and benefits.



Norwegian Glee Club sings in the Parade of Choruses program.

It will be good to have Frank Berger back in his First Bass seat, after giving full-time care to his departed dear wife, Shirley. Herb Nelson indicated that he has knowledge of one or two good prospects for our fraternity. It's always good to add to our ranks.

For a smile: Reality at its best! This morning I was sitting on a bench next to a homeless man. I asked him how he ended up this way. He said, "Up until last week I still had it all!! A cook, my clothes were washed and pressed; I had a roof over my head; I had TV, Internet; I went to the gym, the pool, the library. I could still go to school!"

I asked him, "What happened? Drugs? Alcohol? Divorce?"

"Oh no, nothing like that," he said.

"No, no! I got out of prison."



Charles Engh, Corr. Sec.

LUREN SINGING SOCIETY Decorah IA

Our concert for the Wergeland Sons of Norway Lodge of LaCrosse WI on June 2nd was a good dress rehearsal for Sangerfest the following week. To add to the evening's pleasure we had pie and ice cream afterwards.

There were so many positive aspects to the Sangerfest at Sioux Falls that it puts the pressure on us as we begin to plan for hosting in 2018. Already our newly elected NSAA President, Roger Buhr, has invited us to submit ideas and suggestions for all aspects of the Sangerfest 2018. President Buhr has asked for individuals to indicate their preferences for committees, etc. Soon

we will gather for a brainstorming session. Actually we were given a rare opportunity to do some of that on our way back from Sioux Falls, as these next paragraphs will describe.

As our chartered bus was approaching the SE MN community of Adams ca. 1:15 p.m. Sunday, June 12th, we saw a "Tractor Pull" taking place in the city's park. Just as we passed the park, a car driven by an older lady from Alta Vista IA pulled out from her parking spot, directly in front of the bus. There was no way to avoid a collision. The front of the bus struck the driver's side of the car, which spun around and across the highway.

Fortunately, there were no vehicles coming from the other direction. The car did not overturn; it came to rest in the ditch on the other side. Both sets of airbags inflated in front and on the driver's side.

A lady Highway Patrol officer had been directing traffic into and out of the city park, and was nearby, coming onboard the bus within a few minutes to learn of any injured people and to take down our names, ages, etc.

Meanwhile, First Responders, Fire Department personnel and others soon appeared on the scene. We had "ring-side" (on the bus) seats to watch them work to extricate the driver, using the "Jaws of Life" to cut off the door.

On the bus, Laurel Womeldorf had been napping on the seat. With no restraints she slid off the seat and struck the foot rest, causing a broken upper arm. Both she (Mrs. Jim Womeldorf) and the driver of the car were taken by separate ambulances to a hospital in Austin MN.

Our bus suffered a dislodged front bumper, a broken side mirror and a cracked windshield, all of which

meant we could not proceed on the highways. After about an hour we were led by fire department vehicles around the main street (because the Dairy Days parade was underway) to the fire station. There we were treated to snacks, beverages and the opportunity to brainstorm about Sangerfest 2018 for another hour until a relief bus arrived from Decorah.

Thus ended another episode in the lengthy history of Luren. Laurel has been recovering nicely under Jim's care.



The Luren first time attendees and some of the medal winners during Parade of Choruses.

For the Winneshiek County Fair we were blessed with truly fair weather and excellent attendance for the Fair events and for our food stand. On most days and evenings we ran out of our famous home-made pies.

With the theme "Nordic Fest: 50 Years Strong," we helped celebrate on July 28-30. On Opening Night, the rains held off until we had finished the first formalities. On Friday evening we were scheduled to sing at 6 p.m. to accommodate the Nordic Dancers and to minimize moving of our risers. We were fortunate again that the rains held off. For the Saturday parade our

float was filled and we enjoyed wonderful weather.

We will resume rehearsals Monday, Sept. 12th. We'll have some empty chairs due to retirements, but we hope to have new occupants/singers. The schedule for Fall is filling fast. We'll help serve a Community Meal on Sept. 15th, do a concert at Waukon IA Fairgrounds in honor of the 90th birthday and 65th Anniversary of the Ordination of Fr. Ed Lechtenberg on Sept. 25th.

Most of the Sundays in October are already filled with concerts. Thus far November is blank. The pre-Christmas concert will be Dec. 11th at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Eldorado IA at 3 p.m. with party following.

We learned recently that "Hubö Christen died Aug. 17th. There is to be a memorial service at Decorah Lutheran Church on Sept. 16th. More information and his obituary are yet to come. We mourn his loss.

We wish one and all of our fellow singers a healthy, happy and successful season of singing during this coming year.



Don Berg, Corr. Sec.



John Rasmusson

Obituary

John Rasmusson was born Dec. 16, 1932 at Edgar NE, the youngest son of Rev. Sander and Ruth Rasmusson.

The family moved several times to the various parishes his father served.

John graduated from high school in DeWitt NE, and then went on to the U. of Nebraska on a Navy ROTC scholarship, with a Civil Engineering major.

He served three years on the USS Mathews in Long Beach CA. There he met Joan Ollig, a teacher in Long Beach. They married on March 23, 1957.

After military service John served as an engineer in various firms in Missouri.

In 1962 John became a part of the Ollig family-owned telephone firms in Minnesota, South Dakota and Iowa. Among his hobbies was photography.

John was active in Boy Scout work and, after 2004, in singing in the Minnehaha Mandskor, for which he was Corresponding Secretary to the *Sanger-Hilsen* magazine for several years. He had submitted his final report just a few days before his death.

John died in his bed at home Aug. 3rd. He is survived by his wife Joan; one son John (Joan) of Sioux Falls; two daughters: Pam Carroll of Chicago and Laurie (Oliver) Wolfert of Washington DC; eight grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Funeral services were held Aug. 8th at the Lutheran Church of Dell Rapids with Minnehaha Mandskor providing the special music.

GRIEG MALE CHORUS Canton SD

The Grieg Male Chorus of Canton has been on summer break since Sangerfest looking forward to resuming regular weekly rehearsals in September.

On Aug. 8th, members of Grieg gathered at Moe Parish Park, Hudson SD for our annual family picnic. It is an ideal time to enjoy great food and fellowship and to catch up on what has been happening in the lives of our Grieg family.

The first *Sanger-Hilsen* article after NSAA Sangerfest, I typically enjoy focusing on the events of the Sangerfest. Missing most of this year's event, due to family health issues, I found myself lacking information. I asked our director Lane Karli to pass around a pad at our picnic, to gain a collage of thoughts regarding Sangerfest.

The overwhelming response was the wish that our guests from other choruses enjoyed the entire event. Other comments were as follows: rehearsals were enjoyable and what an experience singing in such a large chorus; GREAT experience, and appreciated chorus histories and comments during Parade of Choruses and awards; enjoyed the hospitality area availability and the vendors; enjoyed all the meals; timely and delicious, with the ice sculpture being a great photo stop; the grand concert was GRAND, enjoyed being a part of it, with the Symphony and soloists adding a special touch.

Comment from a first-time attendee: "Anytime a large group of male voices come together for a concert is an awesome and amazing experience, especially to be a participant of Sangerfest."

Finally, from a friend who had never heard of or heard an NSAA Grand Concert before: "As someone who has never attended a Sangerfest concert, I wasn't certain what to expect. I was absolutely awestruck and totally

mesmerized by the beautiful voices of Sangerfest 2016. Their dedication to singing certainly shines. An experience I will never forget!

As one of the host choruses, the members of the Grieg and Ladies Auxiliary sincerely hope each of the NSAA member choruses attending truly enjoyed a memorable experience.

A special Thank You from my parents, Julian and Verna Holter, to all of you who signed a special large greeting card to Dad. Attending this event had been such a prime focus for them both. Not being able to attend at the last minute was very disappointing, BUT caring thoughts from the NSAA family were priceless!

THANK YOU.

Summer greetings to you all!



Jerry Holter, Corr. Sec.

(The following June-July report was received after *Sanger-Hilsen* went to Press.)

Bjornson Male Chorus Chicago IL

Dear Singer Brothers,

Now is the time to dust off your suitcases, load them up and point them to Sioux Falls S.D. After spending the last few months concentrating on Sangerfest music, B.M.C. is confident that we know the Grand Concert program and will do

our best to make the concert a huge success.

In March we had only one date and that was at the annual Festival Of Songs at Normennenes' club house in Lincolnshire on Friday



Bjornson Male Chorus in the Parade of Choruses singing Johnnie Schmoker.

March 18th. Next, on Saturday, April 16th we joined other choruses and choirs to perform at our director, Ed Kramer's church in Grays Lake to celebrate its 75th anniversary. Upwards of 60 mixed chorus singers joined together, with no rehearsals, and it came together beautifully (Thank the Lord).

On Tuesday, May 17th, BMC appeared at *Minnekirken* (Norwegian Memorial Lutheran Church) in Chicago - always a Huge event. First up, The Logan Square Crescendo, 20 pre-teen girls and boys blasting out three happy tunes. Then the Grieg Ladies Singing Society sang three Nordic songs. Normennenes followed with two songs, *Barndomsminne Fraa Nordland*, and *Rett Som Ornen Stiger*. The *Minnekirken* choir sang two Nordic folk songs followed by Chicago *Spelmanslag*, a real violin hoe-down to the delight of the large gathering's applause. Next, a violin

solo - *Raftevold Skrunn* by Vidar Skrede on his Hardanger fiddle.

A greeting was offered by the Honorary Consul General, Mr. Paul Anderson. After the offering, another violin solo by Greg Rodriguez playing *Ashokan Farewell* - FABULOUS!

Finally, Bjornson's turn singing, *Fanevagt*, then *Ved Rondane* (memories of childhood) with Ken Michaels, tenor and Greg Rodriguez on violin. Our final number, *Rise Up O Men of God*, Ed Kramer Director, Una Stroda on piano.

The final curtain came down as Bjornson and Normennenes joined together with a rousing *Hil Dig Norge*.

Refreshments were served to end one beautiful night of music and fellowship.

Leve Sangen



George Michals, Corr. Sec.

Bjornson Male Chorus Chicago II.

Dear Singer Brothers,

On behalf of the Bjornson Male Chorus and the Ladies Auxiliary we wish to extend a very heartfelt Thank You to Marlan Velgersdyk, The Sioux Valley Singers and their Ladies Auxiliaries for a wonderful Sangerfest. All of the time, hard work and planning that goes into the planning of such an event seems to be over in the blink of an eye.

The meal for the Friday evening banquet was exceptional. The menu consisted of a trio combination plate of Grilled Steak Tenders, Pork Tenderloin and Grilled Chicken and

the trimmings. Something for everyone! We were also treated to great music to which we could listen and dance provided by Hans and Geri Peterson. This music brought back fond memories of my parents, who loved to dance to these tunes.

Thank you!

Some of us from Bjornson gave our director, Ed Kramer, grief now and then for choosing the folk tune Johnny Smoker as a number for the Parade of Choruses. We opened our rehearsal with it and ended with it for months. Were we getting sick of it? YOU BET! According to the audience reaction, our director picked a winner. Thanks Ed for ignoring our resistance, and also Thank You for your strong voice in the baritone section during the Grand Concert. The two guys on either side of you were very grateful.

How fortunate we are to be able to meet and greet old and new friends once again. The next Sangerfest will be held in Decorah, Iowa on May 31st, June 1st and June 2nd, 2018. Luren Singing Society will be celebrating 150 years of singing. What a milestone! The Edvard Grieg Chorus of Madison, Wisconsin has requested the year of 2020.

Once again, special thanks to Marlan, the Sioux Valley Singers, Associate Director Terry Walter and our gifted leader, Director and Chief Dr. David Judisch.

Leve Sangen



Roger Stavnem, Vice President,
Bjornson Male Chorus,

EDVARD GRIEG CHORUS**Madison WI**

Congratulations to NSAA President Marlan Velgersdyk and the Sioux Valley choruses for putting together a flawless Sangerfest 2016. It was a wonderful three days in Sioux Falls capped off by an outstanding Grand Concert. Our Chorus members were particularly impressed by South Dakota's hospitality, the hotel accommodations, after glows, banquets and the performance venue.

Upon our return from Sangerfest, the Chorus began its summer recess. Consequently, it has been a quiet couple of months. As President, however, it gave me the opportunity to put together a summary report of the 2015-16 performance year ending on June 30, 2016. Active Chorus membership in 2015-16 was 33 singers and three professional staff, Director Mark Everson, Accompanist Linda Johnson, and Assistant Director Linda Svanoe.

We had a very active year participating in 14 performances and two social events. Memorable moments during the year included Jeni Houser's performance at our Founders Day Banquet, the introduction of our accordion, violin and recorder trio, the trip to Coon Prairie Lutheran Church and our Parade of Choruses performance.

We also had a good year financially. We increased annual

membership dues to \$100, gave our staff long overdue raises, reduced rent and other expenses, increased performance revenues, and secured



Edvard Grieg Chorus sings *Dansen på Måkeskjær* in Parade of Choruses.



Some of the Edvard Grieg Chorus at the Grand Banquet 10 June 2016.

three grants. Our Chorus essentially broke even for the year, and as a result, no funds had to be drawn from our reserves to cover our operational expenses.

Looking ahead to 2016-17, our Chorus begins the season with our annual picnic on September 7. Our first concert will be at the Waunakee

Performing Arts Center on October 9. This concert will be the first of two performances this year that will include the Norwegian Dancers from Stoughton High School. We anticipate another exciting year of performance opportunities.



Dick Johnston, Corr. Sec.

NORSE GLEE CLUB Sioux Falls SD

Sangerfest 2016 is now in our performance history books. The Norse Glee Club feels privileged to have been part of the Sioux Valley Singers Association (SVSA) team of choruses and auxiliaries that played host to this year's Sioux Falls event. Collectively, we hope that the experience met or exceeded the attendees' expectations. The powerful performances seen during the Parade of Choruses and the Grand Concert were certainly reflective of significant preparation by



Norse Glee Club sings in Parade of Choruses.

all 10 choruses over the past year. A DVD has been made available for each evening's offerings. They are well worth adding to one's NSAA archival library. Choruses have been given DVD and photo ordering information and contact points.

Two weeks after the Sangerfest, on Thursday, June 27th we sang in support of worship services in the St. Dysmas chapel at the SD State Penitentiary. This is one of two annual events that we serve there. This week, George and Judy Regan will once again host our annual potluck picnic at their home; 12th year I believe. Thank you, George and Judy.

We begin regular Monday rehearsals again on Sept. 12th. Initially, our focus will be preparation of music to be presented near the end of the month for the Brookings SD Sons of Norway lodge at their anniversary celebration. Further out, our focus will shift to preparation to sing in the community-wide Festival of Men's Voices in late November 2016, and early preparations for SVSA Sangerfest 2017. The Norse

Glee Club will serve as the host chorus for that June 2017 event. Some preliminary planning has already begun.

It is with sadness that I report the passing of two members of our Glee Club family. KAREN

LOUISE ESPELAND died on June 25th, 2016 at the age of 78. She was the wife of Derald Espeland, a member of our baritone section. Karen had had

some recurring health issues for the past year, and succumbed following

an extensive surgery. Karen was an active participant in our ladies auxiliary.

The second death to report was that of ORLAND Wallyö WALLENBERG. He died on July 9, 2016 at the age of 92. He sang 1st tenor, and had been a member of the Norse Glee Club for about 25 years, having received the NSAA Silver medal in 2010.

Poignantly, at the funeral services for both individuals, each was characterized by family and friends alike as having a strong faith and expressing that spirituality. They each had a profound effect on the communities which knew them. These qualities will long endure in our memories.

One activity item we have deferred until our September business meeting is consideration as to whether we are still able to host a Lutfisk supper this year. Our decision and plans again will be contingent on coordination with other groups and individuals who, historically, have supported us. If held, the supper will be in early November.



Gail Kristensen, Corr. Sec.

HARMONY SINGING SOCIETY

Rockford IL

It is hard to believe that Fall is almost here. What wonderful memories we have thinking back to our convention two months ago. Always nice to see familiar faces from earlier conventions and to make new friends.

Our next Harmony rehearsal is the second Tuesday of September. Our club is having their last steak dinner of the season the third Wednesday of September. I will take pictures of our club house and submit for the next issue. We already have engagements to sing twice during Sept. Have a great singing season!



Velkommen at the hotel.



Santa Claus at the DVD booth.



Hans and Geri Peterson as evening entertainment at Thursday afterglow.



Harmony Singing Society performing Lil' Red Riding Hood in Parade of Choruses.



Steven James, Corr.Sec.

VETERANS CHORUS MINUTES

June 11, 2016

Sioux Falls, South Dakota

The Veterans Chorus Brunch and Business meeting of the 61st Sangerfest of the NSAA was held in Meeting room # 6 at the Sioux Falls Convention Center on June 10, 2016.

The Brunch meal was available as Veterans arrived and most members gathered their meal before taking a seat at the tables provided. A total of 37 Veterans attended.

The Norwegian table prayer was sung before President Ron Beck asked each officer to stand and introduce themselves. The Officers in attendance were: President Ron Beck, Vice President Bob Lillie, Sec/Treasurer Larry Lubbert, Director Bernhard Gluth, and NSAA President Herb Nelson.

In his comments, Director Gluth complimented the group on knowing their music, sticking with the director, sticking together, and he reported that

the comments he had heard so far indicated
 "we did a good job."
 He ended his comments with a line in the song
 No Man is an Island:
 "We all need each other."

During this introduction, a brief discussion was held concerning the location

of the Veterans Chorus banner. President Nelson indicated the banner had been found.

The business meeting was brought to order at 10:15.

Secretary Lubbert read the minutes of the 2014 Veterans Meeting in Minneapolis. No additions or corrections were offered. Minutes accepted as read.

Mr. Lubbert gave the Treasurer's report. The Veterans bank account as of May 30, 2016 was \$253.60. Mr. Lubbert indicated he was delinquent in sending a \$100 check to the Center for Western Studies in August as directed in the 2014 minutes. Mr. Lubbert indicated a check will be sent to address this error. (Check sent July 16, 2016)

President Beck reminded the group that our treasury was funded by a free-will donation at each meeting. A bucket was passed for donations. \$275 collected

A motion was made by Herb Nelson with a second by Norm Arlendson to continue Spending \$45 each year for a Sangerfest Christmas ad. Motion passed.

A presentation on The Center for Western Studies was given by Liz Thron, Collections Assistant at The Center for Western Studies.

She indicated the Center is: a Museum, an Art Center, a Book Publisher, a Sponsor of Educational Events, a Research Library, and Research Archives.

What do they do:

Sort material, organize, prepare for long time preservation, catalog materials, store materials, make material available for research, digitization of material.

A motion was made by Bob Lillie and a second by Herb Nelson that the Veterans Chorus continue to send \$100 a year to the Center for Western Studies, Motion passed.

Nominations were opened for the Election of Officers:

President: Bob Lillie

Vice President: Herb Nelson

Sec./Treas: Jim Lage

Marshal: Roger Amdahl

Director: Bernhard Gluth

The above Officers were elected.

It was announced that Roger Buhr of Luren was elected President of the NSAA for the coming years and would be Chairman of the 2018 Sangerfest Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15

Submitted by

Larry L. Lubbert

Secretary / Treasurer

NSAA MEMORIAL LIST

Bjornson Male Chorus: Philip Holmes

Luren Singing Society: Art Amundson, Paul Hasvold, Kermit Hendrickson, Dan Heubner, Alden Hovda, David Lee, Ronald Martinson, Jerald Tesmer.

Nordic Male Chorus: Harlan Budö Dawson, Walter Lenz.

Normennes Singing Society: Ole Birkelund, Ron Grand.

Norse Glee Club: Glenn Eliason, Murial Eliason, Glenn Johnson, Phillip Olson, Kenneth Raanes, Lloyd Raanes.

Norewegian Glee Club: Clarence Hanson, Arden Nygaard, Duane Olson.

Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers Association Sangerfest 2016

The Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers Association held its 107th annual Sangerfest in Everett, Washington on the June 23-25, 2016. The event was hosted by the Everett Norwegian Male Chorus at the Holiday Inn Downtown in Everett. The Everett Chorus hosted the first Sangerfest of the PCNSA in 1903, and this year marks the 14th time this event has been held in Everett.

Over three days, 89 singers, along with family members and friends, renewed friendships, enjoyed performances by individual choruses, socialized over luncheons and dinners, participated in the annual business meeting, and attended the Grand Concert of the combined choruses.

The Grand Concert was held at the Everett Performing Arts Center; the audience filled the concert space. Under the direction of Steve Jensen, Erik Eliason, and Dr. Alf Knudsen, the massed choirs performed 15 choral selections. All of the solos were performed by member singers of the PCNSA, and piano accompaniment was provided by Jeff Highland.

Special guest performers were the Kamiak High School MidKnights, an auditioned ensemble of mixed voices,

known for performing classical music in barbershop style and contemporary *a cappella* music. The Midknights perform regularly for organizations throughout the community, and the group was well-received by the audience.

At the Grand Banquet, PCNSA medals for years of Sangerfest attendance were presented to 12 individuals, including first-year bars to five men and 35-year medals to Paul Eikeberg and Jeff Highland.

The Norwegian birch tree was featured at Sangerfest 2016. Small birch trees greeted guests at the concert venue; birch branches festooned the Grand Concert stage; logs from small birch trees became centerpieces for the banquet tables; and the back page of the official Sangerfest 2016 program featured a poetic and photographic tribute to this much loved and celebrated tree. The birch branches were harvested from groves of birch trees grown from seedlings from Norway by members of the Everett Chorus.

Sangerfest 2016 provided yet another opportunity for the 11 choruses of the PCNSA to join together to celebrate the Scandinavian heritage, to remember the brotherhood of singers, and to enjoy fellowship in music.

Submitted by Pete Petersen
PCNSA President

Photos this page by D. Barnaal



Beautiful Sioux Falls.



Sioux Falls 2016 Sangerfest Hotel.



SF 2016 Sangerfest hospitality room.



Fest 2016 table with some of the medals.



First time attendees: front row, LR: Bill Schoep, Don Housker, Peter Dodington, Robert Smedsrud. back row, Eugene Willins, Allen Eide, Hunter Friesen, Chis Hicks, Larry Landsgard.



Bronze medal (5th Sangerfest): front row, LR: Carlton Shaw, Ron Hemstad, Lee Grippen, Gerald Jensen, James Slostad. middle row, Randy Schmitt, Carsten Slostad, Robert Olson, Kenneth Larson. back row, Leslie Hernes, Merlyn Finley, David Carlson, Fordyce Brevig, Earl Evenstad



Silver medal (10th Sangerfest): front row LR: Robert Tidemann, Richard Klein, Robert Marshall, Chuck Morkri, Robert Amend. second row, Edwin Kramer, Joseph Isakson, Jack Hauer, Curtis Hepner, Don Pottratz.



Gold medal (15th Sangerfest): front row LR: Lee Randall, Warren Eitreim, Roger Stavnem. second row, Johan Monsen, Jim Glesne, Jim Svanoe.



Gold with diamond medal (20th Sangerfest): LR: Dick Wightman, Clarence Peterson, Lowell Hertzgaard.



Nonagenarian medalists: LR: Warren Eitrem, Clarence Peterson, Lee Randall, Bob Hansen. back row, Helmer Haugland, Robert Marshall, Henry Carlson.

All medal photos by official Sangerfest photographer, Tom Killoran.

MINUTES of NSAA Biennial Meeting, June 14, 2016, Sioux Falls, SD

Meeting called to order at 10:00 by President Marlan Velgersdyk.

1. Roll call of Officers by the Recording Secretary

[Reading names dispensed with in interest of time; all present except as noted]

President: Marlan Velgersdyk, Sioux Falls, SD

Vice President at Large: Thor Fjell, Naperville, IL

Recording Secretary: Richard Leake, Decorah, IA

Corresponding Secretary: Donald Berg, Decorah, IA

Treasurer: Francis Peterson, Decorah, IA

Grand Marshal: Roger Amdahl, Sioux Falls, SD

Assistant Grand Marshal: James Slostad, St. Paul, MN

Director-in-Chief: Dr. David E. Judisch, Decorah, IA

Assistant Director: Terry Walter, Sioux Falls, SD

Past President: Herb Nelson, Stillwater, MN

NSAA State Vice-Presidents

Illinois: Frank Potempa, Des Plaines, IL

Iowa: Ed Stone, Sioux City, IA [substitution: Bob Lillie]

Minnesota: Norman Arlandson, Minneapolis, MN

South Dakota: Curt Hepner, Canton, SD

Wisconsin: Charles Morkri, Verona, WI

Directors:

Bjornson Male Chorus -- Chicago, IL -- Director: Edwin Kramer, Grayslake, IL

Dane County Edvard Grieg Chorus -- Madison, WI -- Director: Mark W. Everson, Edgerton, WI

Grieg Male Chorus -- Canton, SD Director: Lane Karli, Inwood, IA

Harmony Singing Society -- Rockford, IL Director: Sherry Dreyfuss, Rockford, IL [absent]

Luren Singing Society -- Decorah, IA Director: Dr. David Judisch, Decorah, IA

Minnehaha Mandskor -- Sioux Falls, SD Director: Terry Walter, Sioux Falls, SD

Nordic Male Chorus -- Sioux City, IA Director: Charles Schuett, Sioux City, IA

Normennenes Singing Society -- Chicago, IL Director: Charles Kessell, Chicago, IL

Norse Glee Club -- Sioux Falls, SD Director: Lyle E. Kroon, Sioux Falls, SD

Norwegian Glee Club -- Minneapolis, MN Director: Carsten Slostad, St. Paul, MN

2. Credentials' committee report [Marshal Roger Amdahl and Asst. Marshal James Slostad]

Reported 53 credentials including Officers, State VPs and Directors [47 voting members present, 6 absent] accepted for this meeting.

3. Action on the minutes of previous business meetings [Marlan Velgersdyk, Rich Leake]

Dispensed with reading of minutes; Moved, Seconded and Passed to approve Minutes of previous Board meeting [October 18, 2014] as printed in Sept.-Oct. 2014/Jan.-Feb.2015 issues of Sanger-Hilsen. Written reports submitted are attached to official copy of minutes.

4. Action on applications of new choruses [Don Berg, Rich Leake]

No new chorus applications have been received.

5. Director-in-Chief report [Dr. Dave Judisch] *Written report attached to minutes*

Directors met June 10 and contacts updated. Annual membership dues for individual choruses discussed. Fundraising occurs in many different ways for each chorus. Strongly recommended having a Recruiting Coordinator for each chorus and bringing new members to rehearsals, not just inviting them and hoping they show up. Directors

encouraged singing with other male choruses to sing pieces that could not be done alone and noted that this also brings a certain *esprit de corps* to the organization. Director Judisch personally commended the chorus directors for preparing their choruses so well for the Grand Concert this year, and commented that we had one of the best first rehearsals. The Directors bring to membership consideration that Thursday is a very busy day and wonder whether activities that lengthen Thursday could be shortened or placed on a different day. Directors supported idea of awarding medals during the Parade of Choruses. Congratulations to individual choruses for music selection and professional presentation at Parade of Choruses. Special thanks given to Marlan Velgersdyk and his committees who did such an outstanding job with this Sangerfest.

Assistant Director [Terry Walter]

Thanks for all the help in putting Sangerfest 2016 together and the prompt responses to requests for information. The more information sent the better.

6.. President's report [Marlan Velgersdyk] *Written report attached to minutes*

Thanks for lots of help received over the past two years. Observations noted from this experience as President were presented. Emphasis was on the need to find ways to do things better, smarter, and with less effort. Categories covered were Membership, Financial Stability, Extra Activities, Biennial Sangerfests, Need for strong choruses and performance opportunities, Aging leaders and membership, Teamwork approach needed for energy. It is the responsibility of all members to grow choruses and NSAA. Addressed need to find additional ways to fund future Sangerfests. Membership and Money are the two big issues facing NSAA. Our Norwegian heritage continues to drive us, but we need to recognize who we are today and who is our future.

7. Vice-Presidents' reports

Reports by officers and committees are also submitted in writing or electronically and attached to the official minutes [except as noted]. Each report is briefly summarized below.

NSAA Vice President [Thor Fjell] State VPs met June 10, 2016. Topics discussed were numerous. Membership and communication are very important and closely linked. Recommended that choruses pursue lots of performances; great way to get organization name out to public.

WI [Charles Morkri] Edvard Grieg Chorus in Madison continues as only chorus in Wisconsin. Currently has 33 singers, active in performing in wide variety of venues. Special occasion was closing ceremonies at Little Norway in Blue Mounds, WI.

IA [Bob Lillie] Both Nordic Male and Luren Singing Society are very active. Membership numbers currently 12 and 69 respectively. Performances included 21 full concerts, 15 church services, Luren trip to Norway, 2 parades, 12 nursing home visits, and several other events. Nordic is helping host the Sangerfest 2016. Highlight for Luren was a Mother's Day concert that included Luren, Luther Norsemen, Decorah HS male chorus, and Middle School chorus of 160 male singers from ages 12-90.

SD [Curt Hepner] Grieg Male Chorus, Minnehaha Mandskor, Norse Glee Club, Sioux Valley Singers. All three choruses were very active with each performing more than 10 times. Examples include: Minnehaha Mandskor continues having a chislic food booth at the South Dakota State Fair; the Norse Glee Club sings for The Banquet, an organization providing meals for struggling families; the Grieg Male Chorus continues their annual Christmas concert as a fund raiser for Love Inc.. Celebrating current members and participating with other choruses featured as other ways of reaching out. All three choruses are also a part of the Sioux Valley Singers Association and have worked very hard together these past two years in preparation for the 2016 Sangerfest.

IL [*Frank Potempa*] Harmony in Rockford, Normennenes & Bjornson in Chicago ó Very active choruses. Membership age and health issues are concerns. Recruitment via newspaper articles important with social media helping. Rockford combines with Swedish chorus. Normennenes and Bjornson engaging in successful joint concerts. Music committee helpful in choosing music and events. Focus on entertainment value. Website and Facebook helpful in reaching out to audiences. Use Social and Choral memberships to strengthen community ties. Celebrate heritage and milestones. Need to plan in order to achieve success.

MN [*Norman Arlandson*] Norwegian Glee Club. Reported from personal experience the need to plan for medical emergencies during rehearsals and concerts. Membership is driven by love of singing. Need to know community and membership demographics. Relationships with other choruses ó asked if it is okay to perform in other areas? Understand other events occurring to the area; find ways to participate. [no written report submitted]

8. Corresponding Secretary's report [*Don Berg*] *Written report attached to minutes* Berg continues to maintain contact with each chorus. Thanked Barb Berg for her help. Lots of phone conversations during past two years. Credentials handled by Sangerfest committee with assistance of Recording Secretary. Medal supply sufficient except bronze; Jostens helpful in meeting needs. Raised question of joint venture Sangerfests with PCNSA. Corresponding Secretaries met June 10, 2016, and discussed submission and timing issues for *SangerHilsen*. Would like to include more pictures but please identify individuals by names.

9. Committee reports

NSAA Website report [*Rich Leake*] *Written report attached to minutes* Volunteer webmaster since 2005 has been Penny Leake, member of the Luren Auxiliary. NSAA website receives many hits each month with peak activity occurring prior to Sangerfests. Individual chorus websites are linked to the NSAA website. Top NSAA pages visited are the home/announcement page, the Sangerfest pages, the translations pages, and older *Sanger-Hilsen* editions. *Sanger-Hilsens* archived on website are from 2009 to the present, and we continue to receive requests each year for older editions to be archived online. Three domain names [nsaaonline.com, nsaaonline.org, nsaaonline.net] are maintained for ease in finding NSAA information. Asked for a volunteer webmaster from NSAA membership.

Nordisk Sangerforbund report [*Rich Leake*] NSF continues to inform NSAA about choral activities in Scandinavian countries, and encourages joint efforts with other Nordic choruses in the US and abroad.

10. Treasurer's report [*Francis Peterson*] *Written report attached to minutes* Francis Peterson distributed copies of treasurer's report. A full report is attached to the official minutes. Beginning balance in the General Fund as of July 1, 2014 was \$10,691.24. Current Balance as of June 9, 2016 is \$11,217.85. Receipts come primarily[>\$500] from membership dues, *Sanger-Hilsen* subscriptions and *Sanger-Hilsen* holiday greetings. Disbursements come primarily[>\$500] from medals, salaries and *Sanger-Hilsen* printing costs. The *Sanger-Hilsen* account showed a beginning balance of \$5593.91 and an ending balance of \$5571.05 for the same time period. Total of NSAA savings account and investments [laddered CDs] is \$16,292.27. Peterson shared membership statistics showing stability since 2010. Motion to accept financial report, seconded, and passed.

11. Auditor's report [*Curt Hepner*] The Audit Committee reported excellent documentation; all expenditures and income were duly noted. It was moved and seconded to approve the financial report. Motion passed.

12. Sanger-Hilsen Editor's report [Don Berg] *Written report attached to minutes*

Berg thanked Dennis Barnaal, who serves as technical assistant and co-editor, and the various correspondents for their reports. Slight reduction in total number of subscriptions. Deadlines vary for each issue. Apologized for some issues with printing this past year. Current issues continue to be mailed and previous issues archived on the NSAA website. According to Bylaws, all members need to be subscribers to *SangerHilsen*. Submit roster changes as soon as possible including telephone, mailing and email addresses. Seek input from PCNSA. Lots of changes during 25 years of being Editor.

13. Review and determine the honoraria, membership dues, subscription rates, etc.

Peterson moved no changes be made to honoraria, dues, or subscription rates. Second. Passed.

14. Unfinished business

- a. New Chorus interest ó no requests received but we need to continue to search
- b. Future sites for Sangerfest -- Roger Buhr invited membership to Decorah in 2018. Dick Johnston invited membership to have Sangerfest 2020 in Madison, WI. Moved, Seconded and Passed to accept both offers.
- c. Music Committee ó Moved to suspend rules for electing a music committee and approve operating as committee with all directors included. Second. Passed.
- d. Sangerfest 2016 update -- Have a great time! Looking forward to Grand Concert. Encourage attendees ó tickets are still available. 216 singers are registered and participating this year. Should be profitable this year. Thanks for participating.
- e. Nordisk Sangerforbund ó Encouraged increased activity between PCNSA and NSAA; a possible opportunity for a joint Sangerfest in Seattle 2018 with the opening of a new Nordic Heritage Museum which would probably attract Scandinavian choruses also?

15. New business

- a. Future Sangerfest suggestions: Need to review costs. Note that Sangerfest 2014 experienced a loss and members continue to complain about scheduling and attendance costs. More activities needed for spouses; scheduling gaps; better coordination with spouse's activities and rehearsals. Noted that each Sangerfest is unique with activities and schedules. Thursday is marathon day ó can we schedule better? Is Parade of Choruses necessary or can it be held at another time?
- b. Continued Financial Support for Center for Western Studies: Motion to commence donation of \$100 per annum to CWS [Gail Kristensen]. Seconded. Noted that Veterans Chorus also contributing to CWS. Question about payments in past and the motion passed June 2014 authorizing annual contributions of \$250. Second withdrawn. Motion withdrawn with concerns voiced about needing to make payments.
- c. Motion [Berg] to ask new Board to formally invite PCNSA to Sangerfest 2018 in Decorah. Second. Passed unanimously.
- d. Berg announced that a Greeting will be sent to PCNSA for Sangerfest, 2016 [June 23-25 at Everett, WA]. Greeting to be sent by Luren.
- e. Leake received an invitation from Nordisk Sangerforbund for NSAA choruses to participate in Choirfestival in Ribe DK, June 2-4, 2017.
- f. Other items:
 - Appointment of website administrator suggested.
 - Need to limit time for reports. Strongly suggested printing reports in advance and hand out to delegates at time of meeting.

16. Invitation for the next Sangerfest [Roger Buhr]

The Luren Singing Society invites all choruses to Decorah for the 2018 Sangerfest, May 31-June 2. It was moved, seconded, and passed to accept the invitation.

17. Election of officers (voice vote unless otherwise noted)

President: Roger Buhr, Decorah, IA
Vice President at Large: Thor Fjell, Naperville, IL
Recording Secretary: Rich Leake, Decorah, IA
Corresponding Secretary: Don Berg, Decorah, IA
Treasurer: Francis Peterson, Decorah, IA
Grand Marshal: Ken Larson, Decorah, IA
Assistant Grand Marshal: Jim Slostad, St. Paul, MN
Director-in-Chief: Dr. David E. Judisch, Decorah, IA
Assistant Director: Nominations: Terry Walter,
 Ed Kramer. Request for written ballot.

Terry Walter elected 23-21.

Past President: Marlan Velgersdyk, Sioux Falls, SD

State Vice-Presidents:

WI: Jon Lewis, Stoughton, WI

IA: Bob Lillie, Decorah, IA

SD: Curt Hepner, Canton, SD

IL: Frank Potempa, Des Plaines, IL

MN: Norm Arlandson, Minneapolis, MN

18. Adjournment at 12:40 by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted by Richard Leake, Recording Secretary



New President R. Buhr "receives gavel" from M. Velgersdyk (right).

2016-2018 NSAA Officers.

Back row LR: F. Peterson,
 C. Hepner, K. Larson, J. Slostad,
 J. Lewis

Middle row LR: T. Fjell, R. Buhr,
 R. Leake.

Front row LR: D. Berg, T. Walter,
 D. Judisch, M. Velgersdyk.



2016-2018 State Vice-Presidents

LR: N. Arlandson, C. Hepner,
 T. Fjell, J. Lewis, F. Potempa,
 B. Lillie

Photos this page by
 Tom Killoran



**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, thorffjell@comcast.net. Recording Secretary: Frank Potempa, 1788 W. Sherwood Rd., fcpotempa@sbcbglobal.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 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: Ralph Van Fossen, 806 Linden, Decarh IA 52101, 563-382-5880. RHVF@lurenSingers.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: Robert O. Olson, 7442 Pillsbury Ave S, Richfield MN 55423-4115; tel. (612)866-0687, bobjoolson@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, 5115 S. Rolling Green Ave. #210, Sioux Falls, SD 57108. tel. (605) 371-0669. mcvelgersdyk@midco.net Corr. Secretary: John Rasmusson, 4312 W. 58th St. #109, Sioux Falls SD 57108, tel. (605)271-0838. jprass@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 57013. Tel (605)987-5720; Corresponding Secretary: Gail Kristensen, 111 W. 17th St., Apt. #110, Sioux Falls, SD 57104, tel. (605)731-5281 mrgail@sio.midco.net. 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: Dick Johnston, 26 Chautauqua Tr., Madison WI 53719, (608) 833-6284 richarj@charter.net. Corresponding Secretary: Dick Johnston, 26 Chautauqua Tr., Madison WI 53719, (608) 833-6284 richarj@charter.net ; Director: Mark W. Everson, 711 Highway #106, Edgerton, WI 53534, tel. (608) 884-9398 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: Gail Kristensen, 111 W. 17th St., Apt #110, Sioux Falls SD 57104. tel; (605) 731-5281, mrgail@sio.midco.net; 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: 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 7th Ave. Ellensburg WA 98926, (509) 607-9406 o.petersen@gmail.com. Vice President: Jeffrey Highland; 76 Utsalady Road, Camano Island, WA 98292. (360)387-5285 highland@smumn.edu. Secretary: Phil Overlund, 11556 Shadow Ranch Rd; La Mesa CA 91941, (619)660-1125 jpooverlund@cox.net. Treasurer: Rick Olson, 8726 Shadowood Dr, Everett WA 98208, (425)337-0795, olymeister20@comcast.net. Trustees: California: Don Stewart, 5476 Forbes Ave., San Diego CA 92129-1892 (619)287-7812, dstewart73@att.net. Oregon: Mike Bagaason, 2460 Bailey Hill Rd, Eugene OR 97405, (541)687-2562, bagaason@rioussa.com. Washington: Allen Feris, 23514 135th Ave NE, Arlington WA 98223, (360)435-3144, feris.allen@msn.com. Trustee at Large: Allen Feris, 23514 135th Ave NE, Arlington WA 98223, (360)435-3144, feris.allen@msn.com. ; Director-in-Chief: Steve Jensen, 2694 Goshen Rd., Bellingham, WA 98226, cell phone (360)303-3919, stmjensen@earthlink.net; Asst. Director-in-Chief: Erik Eliason, 8115 49th Ave NE, Marysville WA 98270. Tel. (425)328-9807, erik.eliason@hotmail.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@vahoo.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; 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 Storseter, 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 Lannsing 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, cell phone (360)303-3919, stmjensen@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. Secretary: Robert Bruland, tel. (425)335-1150 bruland2@comcast.net. Director: Steve Jensen, 2694 Goshen Rd., Bellingham, WA 98226, cell phone (360)303-3919, stmjensen@earthlink.net

POULSBO

Vestre Sund Mannskor

Meets every Thursday, 7:30 p.m. at Grieg Hall, Sons of Norway, 18891 Front St., Poulsbo, WA 98370. President: Stan Overby, 29311 Beach Dr., Poulsbo, WA 98370, tel: (360) 779-2460; Secretary: 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 Eysteinsson, tel. (205)799-8000, JensEysteinsson@AmericanSeafods.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

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, 2694 Goshen Rd., Bellingham, WA 98226, cell phone (360)303-3919, stmjensen@earthlink.net

TACOMA

Normanna Male Chorus

Rehearsal: Each Monday 6:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 20 Tacoma Ave. S, 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



NSAA Sangerfest Grand Concert, 11 June 2016.

Photo by Doris Barnaal