



**VOLUME 107, NO. 4**

**DECORAH, IA July-August 2017**

NORWEGIAN SINGERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

*GRAND CONCERT - 7:00 PM, June 2, 2018*  
Decorah, Iowa

Ja, vi elsker dette landet	Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson/Rikard Nordraak
Star Spangled Banner	Francis Scott Key/John Stafford Smith

**I**

Norges Fjelde	Halfdan Kjerulf
Ved Rondane            tenor solo	Edvard Grieg/arr. Kramer
I Will Lift My Eyes    oboe solo	Victor Johnson
Dear Land of Home (Finlandia)	Jean Sibelius
Psalm 24 (Lift Up Your Heads)	Gunnar Wennerberg

**II**

**III**

Salute to Our Patriots	Arranged by Terry Walter
Norge, mitt Norge	Alfred Paulsen
Fanevagt (in A flat major)	Ole Olsen
Then Will the Very Rocks Cry Out	Mark Hayes
The Lost Chord                      With orchestra	Arthur Sullivan

**IV**

The Awakening (with orchestra)	Joseph Martin
Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal	Craig Carnahan
All I Ask of You	Webber/Hart/Stilgoe/arr. T. Walter
Landkjending (w/ orchestra)    baritone Solo	Edvard Grieg

\*\*\*\*\*

Veterans Chorus for Parade of Choruses:

Tonerna	Carl Leopold Sjöberg
No Man is an Island	arr. Wayne Spies

**NSAA President’s Column**

Luren Singers are getting ready to host Sangerfest next summer. All of our committees are organized and hard at work.

I wasn’t aware that years ago parades were a regular part of Sangerfests. According to Luren’s 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary publication the last parade was in Decorah in 1966, the first year that Luren hosted Sangerfest.

The Decorah community was so impressed by the celebration and the spirit of Sangerfest that “Nordic Fest” was launched the following year and continues as a very successful annual event the last full weekend in July.

Luren hosted Sangerfest in 1966, 1976, 1986, and 2006. The means that 2018 will be the fifth time. Our theme is “CELEBRATE! Our Norwegian Heritage.” We look forward to seeing you in Decorah.



Roger Buhr, NSAA President

**GRIEG MALE CHORUS  
Canton SD**

Summer greetings from the Grieg Male Chorus, Canton SD. My sincere thanks to chorus member Bill Kortemeyer for submitting news from our chorus for the last issue of Sanger-Hilsen. He did a GREAT job. That’s what is great about family and chorus family; one can always count on someone to help!

Since the Sioux Valley Singers Association Sangerfest, our Chorus has been on summer break, looking

forward to resuming regular weekly rehearsals in September. Upcoming events will be our annual family picnic which again this year will be held at Moe Parish Park, Hudson SD.

We were saddened by the July 12<sup>th</sup> passing of Grieg member Gordon Grimsrud. Gordon was an active and enthusiastic member of our chorus, and will be greatly missed. Gordon and his wife Ella attended their first NSAA Sangerfest in Minneapolis in 2002. We extend our deep sympathy to Ella Mae and family. Special music for Gordon’s service was provided by the Grieg Male Chorus.

Again, greetings to all of you, with hopes that you and your families are enjoying the summer season.



Jerry Holter, Corr. Sec.

**Obituary**



Gordon Grimsrud was born on a farm near Veblen SD on Mar. 6, 1939, a son of Arthur and Emma (Jacobson) Grimsrud. After Veblen High School he graduated from SDSU in 1961 with a BA in Ag. Ed.

He married Ella Mae Stortvedt June 17, 1962. They parented son Douglas and daughter Kim. He taught in various schools, ending with 32 years in

Canton. After retirement in 1998 he joined Grieg Male Chorus.

Gordon died July 12<sup>th</sup> at his home in Canton. He was preceded in death by his parents, infant twin sisters and one brother Richard.

Surviving are his wife Ella, Douglas (Dianne), Kim (Kirt) Dahl, five grandchildren, two great grandchildren, and one sister.

Funeral services were at Lands Lutheran Church, Hudson SD July 17<sup>th</sup>. Grieg Male Chorus sang "It is Well with my Soul" and "Beautiful Savior."

We offer our sympathy to the family and to the Grieg Chorus family on their loss.

### NORMENNENES SINGING SOCIETY Chicago IL

The calendar tells me that Fall is coming and that chorus activities need to be discussed. Foremost on our schedule is the Scandinavian Day festivities at Vasa Park in South Elgin on Sunday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>. Our Chorus has a vendor booth as we did last year. This is a very popular event; last year there were over 2500 in attendance.

This is an excellent opportunity to meet and greet prospective new singers. We have been working hard in preparation for this event, and we even have a video of the last Sangerfest. We are looking forward to a big day.

Our Music Committee has met during the summer regarding our activity schedule. Music selection is a top priority with the stress that it should be entertaining.

Another key factor is new singer recruitment, which concerns many of us. Active involvement is very

important. To meet this objective we have lined up a singing performance at two local nursing homes. An added incentive is that we learned one of those Homes formerly had a mixed chorus.

Another major performance will be our 147<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert and Banquet on Friday, Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>. Details are being worked on, including whether to have additional entertainment to join us.

I would like to give you some information about our newest member, John Flader. John joined us recently in our First Tenor section, and has become a valuable member of our club. He is an excellent, experienced singer, and is now on our Board as our club treasurer.

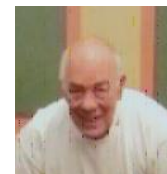
An interesting story is how John learned about us. I have mentioned that we advertise in our local newspaper. Well, that's how John came to our rehearsal. He had contacted our membership chairman, Jerry Jensen, and that's how he got started.

I have another story, involving Jerry Jensen. Jerry has been with Normennenes now for ten years. It's interesting how he learned about us. Jerry's wife Ann had noticed an ad in the newspaper regarding Norwegian singers, and told Jerry. That is how Jerry learned about us.

A footnote is that in these ten years Jerry has missed only one rehearsal and has been doing a great job as our membership chairman.

Food for thought!

Yours in song,



Thor Fjell

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

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**DONALD L. BERG**  
**Editor-Business Manager**

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**OFFICERS OF NSAA**

**President:** Roger Buhr, 105 Randall Dr., Decorah IA 52101, (563)382-3088, cell 563-379-2993. [rbuhr@mchsi.com](mailto:rbuhr@mchsi.com)

**Vice President at Large:** Thor Fjell, 1041 W. Ogden Ave, #118, Naperville, IL 60563. cell (630)479-4233  
[thorfjell@comcast.net](mailto:thorfjell@comcast.net)

**Recording Secretary:** Richard Leake, 703 Valley View Dr., Decorah IA 52101 (563) 382-3796 [leakeric@luther.edu](mailto:leakeric@luther.edu)

**Corresponding Secretary:** Donald Berg, 407 Leif Erikson Dr, Decorah, IA 52101. (563)382-5727 FAX(563)387-0770

**Treasurer:** Francis Peterson, 710 Ridge Road, Decorah IA 52101. (563)382-4504  
[fpmp@MCHSL.com](mailto:fpmp@MCHSL.com)

**Grand Marshal:** Kenneth Larson, 210 Iowa Ave, Decorah IA 52101. (563)382-8167. [larsonke@luther.edu](mailto:larsonke@luther.edu)

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

**Director-in-Chief:** Dr. David E. Judisch, 814 Fifth Ave., Decorah IA 52101. (563)382-9222. cell (563)380-7707  
[judiscda@luther.edu](mailto:judiscda@luther.edu)

**Assistant Director:** Terry Walter, 2708 West Oak St., Sioux Falls SD. (605)339-0607 [clefdwellers\\_on\\_oak@juno.com](mailto:clefdwellers_on_oak@juno.com)

**Past President:** Marlan Velgersdyk, 5115 S. Rolling Green Ave. #210, Sioux Falls, SD 57108. (605) 371-0669.  
[mcvelgersdyk@midco.net](mailto:mcvelgersdyk@midco.net)

**NSAA STATE VICE-PRESIDENTS**

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

[fcpotempa@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fcpotempa@sbcglobal.net)

**Iowa:** Robert Lillie, 1102 Nordic Dr. No. 223, Decorah IA 52101. (563)419-0159  
[lillierb223@gmail.com](mailto:lillierb223@gmail.com)

**Minnesota:** Norman Arlandson, 4540 Columbus Ave, Minneapolis MN 55407-3526. (612)822-4216

[normanarlandson@gmail.com](mailto:normanarlandson@gmail.com)

**South Dakota:** Curt Hepner, 321 N. Lincoln St., Canton SD 57013-1721.

(605)764-2914 [mycurt67@gmail.com](mailto:mycurt67@gmail.com)

**Wisconsin:** Jonathan Lewis, 1124 E. Main St., Stoughton WI 53589. 608-873-5268.

**VETERAN CHORUS OFFICERS**

**President:** Robert Lillie, 1102 Nordic Dr. No. 223, Decorah IA 52101. (563)419-0159 [lillierb223@gmail.com](mailto:lillierb223@gmail.com)

**Vice President:** Herb Nelson, 620 Oak St. West, Stillwater MN 55082-5624. (651)587-4819.

[herbert.nelson@comcast.net](mailto:herbert.nelson@comcast.net)

**Secretary-Treasurer:** James Lage, 1102 Nordic Dr. No. 207, Decorah IA. tel. (563)382-1860.

[jimandarlene@vennehjem.org](mailto:jimandarlene@vennehjem.org)

**Marshal:** Roger Amdahl, 5008 E. 28<sup>th</sup> St, Sioux Falls SD; 57110. (605)336-6387 cell (605)929-6488.

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

**DEADLINE FOR  
Sept.-Oct. 2017 ISSUE  
Oct. 14, 2017**

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

We have been enjoying a cool, moist June, and now move into the warmer, humid July. In my imagination I have fired off all of my Independence Day fireworks with no apparent injury. I have memories of close calls and minor injuries in my youth.

Now for a bit of news during our summer vacation: On Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, a cloudy, damp, cool day, we participated in the Scandinavian celebration at Minnehaha Park. This was the second year of having the Swedes with us for this popular annual event.

Because of the weather we thought the attendance would be down, but that was not the case. The Park was full, and there was an increased number of vendors. As the Swedish Institute Choral group was touring over in Sweden during that week, only three who did not travel joined us for our concert part of the program. Our Assistant Director, Dennis Sorheim, directed in Carsten Slostad's absence. I don't think we did too well with our Swedish selection that we had never practiced, but the audience was kind in their applause.

It is with sadness to learn that our long-time friend and singer, Lee Randall, has serious health issues. Lee has been our Treasurer for more years than I can count. We have him and his family in our prayers.

We have other members also having difficulties: Frank Berger, Ron Hemstad and Bob Berndt. We hope they can rejoin us in the Fall. We look forward to a very busy Fall and Winter schedule.

For a Smile: A newly married man asked his wife, "Would you have mar-

ried me if my father had not left me with a fortune?" "Honey," she replied. "I would have married you, NO MATTER WHO LEFT YOU A FORTUNE."

A wife asked her husband, "What do you like most in me, my pretty face or my sexy body?" He looked at her from head to toe and replied, "I like your sense of humor."



Charles Engh, Corr. Sec.

**OBITUARY**

(The following is excerpted from the obituary in the Minneapolis Star-Tribune, sent by Mr. Engh a few weeks after his first report.)



Leland A. Randall was born in St. Paul May 19, 1924 to Norman and Myrtle (Haugland) Randall. He was raised in western Wisconsin, graduating from Woodville High School and University of Wisconsin -River Falls.

After three years of military service during WW II, and graduate school at Vermillion SD, he began his teaching career at Harmony MN in 1950, then to Richfield MN, retiring in 1987.

Lee sang with the Norwegian Glee Club for 30 years, serving most recently as Glee Club Treasurer. He was honored with the NSAA Gold with Diamond medal for attending 20 Sangerfests a few years ago. He made

two trips to Norway including the NSAA Concert Tour in 1985.

Lee died July 27<sup>th</sup>. His funeral was held at *Mindekirken* Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup> with his burial at Woodville WI.

Lee is survived by children, Leland, Dennis (Nancy) and Kathleen, five grandchildren, two sisters and one brother.

### **BJORNSON MALE CHORUS**

#### **Chicago, Illinois**

Dear Singer Brothers,

"The Summer Wind keeps Blowin' in from across the Sea"... so it won't be long 'til we sing our song; won't you join with me?... Ahhh, isn't life grand? Those of us who are retired enjoy the fact that every day is like a Sunday, but to maintain good health, being active, doing something, anything is a must! My wife asks me when I'm going to start! Ha-ha. Sometimes the old bones don't want to cooperate. The "get up and go" has got up and went. The famous author, Billy Graham, once said, "Getting old isn't for Sissies!"

We have three singers who have been absent last year. Oystein Borsheim (second tenor) has moved into the Danish Retirement Home in Chicago. He's getting good help and is getting much better.

Bud Eriksen, (second tenor) also has health issues that have kept him pretty much home bound. Hang in there, Bud!

In addition, Bob "Big Daddy" Weldon (second bass) is anxious to come back on the line in September...Great!!

Tuesday, September 15th is our first rehearsal...Decorah, here we come!

Closing on a sad note. Ruth Olsen, widow of deceased singer Sig Olsen, and mother of Eileen Ronning, passed away on May 22, 2017, in Hastings MN. A memorial service will be at the Mount Olive Cemetery, 3800 N. Narragansit Ave in Chicago on Friday morning, August 18th at 11am.

*Leve Sangen,*



George Michals, Corr. Sec.

### **NORSE GLEE CLUB**

#### **Sioux Falls SD**

Last issue I reported on the successful completion of the 50<sup>th</sup> Biennial Sioux Valley Singers Association (SVSA) Sangerfest 2017, which we (the Norse Glee Club) had the honor to host. Well, as of this writing, I can report the accounting is complete, the bills have been paid, and a small profit has resulted. As has been our tradition, the chorus voted at our July business meeting to donate a portion of the proceeds to the SVSA organization.

This past week (on Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>) George and Judy Regan once again held a summer potluck for the chorus and our auxiliary at their home. It was the 13<sup>th</sup> year for this gathering, I believe. Weather cooperated, so it was an outdoor event.

We begin fall rehearsals on Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. Our near-term focus, as in most years, will be preparation for the community-wide Festival of Men's Voices, scheduled for late November, and holiday concerts as they begin to develop. Further out will be our early

preparation for NSAA Sangerfest 2018. We are interviewing for a new accompanist as we begin this work. Our Crystal Amman has announced that she needs to attend to some family priorities now. We wish her well, and we definitely will miss her dedication to the chorus.

One activity item that we have deferred to our September business meeting is consideration of whether we are still able to hold a Lutefisk supper as in past years. Our decision will be contingent upon coordination with other groups and individuals who, historically, have assisted us. We are seriously looking into other fund-raising possibilities as well.



Gail Kristensen, Corr. Sec.

### **EDVARD GRIEG CHORUS Madison WI**

My wife Charlotte and I just returned from a trip to beautiful Switzerland. As a result I am trying to catch up as the summer seems to be racing by. Our Chorus has been in recess, but lots of exciting things are happening. Most importantly, our search committee has found an excellent candidate to be our replacement director. Our current director, Mark Everson, is retiring after serving the Chorus for more than 40 years! Mark has indicated that he is not exactly leaving us, but he will handle the transition and may even remain as a singer when his schedule allows.

Our new director is Jonathan Schroerlucke who graduated with a BA in music from North Central College in Illinois. As a student he studied vocal performance with an emphasis on classical, opera and jazz. He was also student conductor of the North Central College Concert Chorus. Jonathan sang professionally with the Florentine Opera of Milwaukee for five years.

Currently he is the Director of Music at Memorial United Church of Christ in Fitchburg, a suburb of Madison. He is also a staff member of our very successful Wisconsin Youth Symphony organization that involves over 500 Wisconsin high school students in five orchestras. Jonathan is a composer and also teaches voice and guitar.



Jonathon Schroerlucke

Jonathan has strong Norwegian roots on his mother's and grandparents' side of the family. Those of us who interviewed Jonathan and have watched him conduct his church choir feel that we are fortunate indeed to have found such a talented musician.

In other news, the Chorus CD recorded in May is now ready for distribution. It turned out exceptionally well considering it has been some time since the Chorus has undertaken this challenge. Our early

preparation for the 2020 Sangerfest also continues. Finally, the Chorus will be singing on Sunday, August 20 as part of the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of East Koshkonong Lutheran Church. Our Annual Fall Picnic on September 12 will be the official start to the new performance year.



Dick Johnston, Corr. Sec.

**MINNEHAHA MANDSKOR  
Sioux Falls SD**

The Mandskor and Auxiliary gathered for their summer picnic, Sunday, July 30. We had a reserved shelter at Terrace Park. This enabled us to have our meal and meeting at 6:00 PM, and take in the Municipal Band Concert at 8:00 PM. It was a beautiful evening and we had a good attendance.



Mandskor & Auxiliary summer picnic

Much preparation is necessary to make our chislic stand a success. Preparations to move the shack to the Sioux Empire Fairgrounds began a week before opening day. The fair ran August 4-13. We are fortunate to have willing workers to divide the tasks. We did find ourselves short

nearly a dozen people from last year. This is due to attrition, illness, and age. It's clear to us that we need to find more members and younger members to continue this very successful venture. So far, we are about \$1000 ahead of last year's sales. Weather has been beautiful and may contribute to the increase.



Customers at Mandskor Chislic stand.



Mandskor mascot Winston Kittelson makes friends with Eli (son of Tony and Bobbie Jo Legget) and Megan Brandsma (granddaughter of Jerry and Karen Muchow) at Mandskor summer picnic.

It being our summer break, we don't have much to report, but we are glad to share that past president Marlan Velgersdyk is recovering nicely after a serious surgery in June.



He hasn't been selling chislic for us this summer. Wild horses couldn't keep him away in the past, so we know that he must still be in recovery mode.

We look forward to more nice weather, some much needed rain, and our reconvening after Labor Day. Respectfully submitted,



Terry Walter

P.S. We just received word that the youngest son of Marlan and Carol Velgersdyk, Michael, died Tuesday, Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup> at Lincoln NE. He was 47. (Editor)

#### LUREN SINGING SOCIETY Decorah IA

Normally our summer months are less busy, although we have had tours during those times on alternate years from Sangerfests. In recent years the Winneshiek County Fair and Nordic Fest have taken up much of July.

After the Homecoming events in Spring Grove with our concert on the 25<sup>th</sup> of June, we had a brief break until the Fair, for which we had truly Fair weather. There were a few problems in the supply of pies, not enough one night and some left over on another.

We were favored again with good weather for Nordic Fest. For Opening Night we did the "prelude", ending almost exactly on time (the church bells began to ring as we sang the last few bars of our last selection). Friday we were scheduled for 6 p.m. to accommodate the Nordic Dancers and lessen

the moving of risers, etc. And we were Unit 40 in the Saturday morning parade, again blessed with fine weather and enthusiastic watchers.



Luren window display at 2017 Nordic Fest featured the Nordi-Gras theme.

As part of the Nordic Fest plans for next year, attendees could vote on one of three optional themes. One of these was submitted by Yours Truly, linked with Luren's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to be observed in 2018. It was "The Lure of the Lure." Results of the votes have not been reported yet.

We sadly report several deaths in the Luren "family." Eric Larson, a son of former Luren member Paul Larson, died at Iowa City on June 29<sup>th</sup>. Ethel Kvammen, widow of long-time Luren member Alfred Kvammen, died July 29<sup>th</sup>, and Andrew Gray, son of Jim and Karen Gray, who sang with us in a Luren-Norsemen concert several years ago and again when we took our 2001 tour to North Norway, died July 28<sup>th</sup>. We were honored and privileged to sing as part of Andrew's memorial service. Last, we learned during the Fair week that Sue, wife of member Carl Peterson, had been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Her death was Aug. 8<sup>th</sup>.

We look to build up our roster for the coming years with recruitment of new members or renewal of former

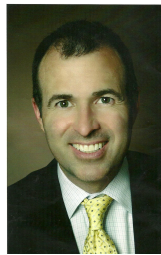
members. Jim Womeldorf, who has led the recruitment efforts in recent years, sent a reminder for us to make our contacts and to invite and bring the prospects.



Don Berg, Corr.Sec.

### OBITUARY

Andrew James Gray, son of James and Karen (Bonnette) Gray, was born at LaCrosse WI Mar. 3, 1970. He grew up in Spring Grove and Mabel MN, graduated from Spring Grove HS and went on to Luther College, where he sang with the Norsemen freshmen male chorus and then for three years as a member of Nordic Choir under the direction of Weston Noble. One of Nordic's tours was to Russia, on which Andrew was Dr. Noble's personal valet.



Andrew Gray

Although his BA was in Elementary Education, Andrew went to work for Lutheran Brotherhood, serving for five years on the West Coast, then returning to the Midwest. While living in Cedar Rapids he was introduced to Carrie Willett, whom he married May 28, 2006.

Andrew and Carrie became parents to Kyle and Karna. The family moved to Northfield MN, where Andrew was employed with Thrivent Financial.

On March 12, 2016, Andrew was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic

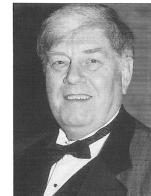
Leukemia (ALL). For 16 months he was treated with chemo, radiation and stem cell transplant by the Mayo Medical personnel.

Andrew died July 28<sup>th</sup> at Rochester. The celebration of his too-short life was held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Spring Grove MN Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>. Along with nine hymns by the congregation, Luren Singers sang "We Shall Walk" and "Jesus Loves Me," and "Aftensang" at the graveside.

### OBITUARY

Gordon W. Olson, former director of Nordkap and Assistant Director of NSAA, died May 8, 2017 at home in Golden Valley, a suburb of Minneapolis.

Gordon was born Sept. 18, 1936 on a farm in Brantford ND. His schooling was in West Fargo ND and Concordia College, earning his BA in Music and Psychology, singing all four years in the Concordia Choir.



Gordon Olson

Gordon married Mary Swenson on June 6, 1959 in Austin MN. While teaching and directing school and church choirs in various Minnesota communities, they had four children.

He was associated with several groups such as the National Lutheran Choir and the Dale Warland Singers. He was director of the Nordkap Male Chorus and Assistant Director of the Norwegian Singers Association of America for the Sangerfests held in 2000, 2002, and 2004.

Gordon was preceded in death by his parents and one brother David. He is survived by his wife Mary; children Laurie (Tom) Rejzer, Linda (John) McDonough, Diane (Dan) Hinderaker, and Erik (Susan); nine grandsons; two sisters and two brothers.

His funeral was held May 16<sup>th</sup> at Central Lutheran Church, in Minneapolis. Burial was at Austin MN.

**Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers  
Association  
Sangerfest 2017**

The Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers Association held its 108<sup>th</sup> annual Sangerfest in San Diego, California on June 22-24, 2017. The event was hosted by the San Diego Mannskor at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. The San Diego Mannskor previously hosted PCNSA Sangerfests in 1997 and 2015.

Over three days, 65 singers from 10 choruses, 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 included 15 choral selections and was directed by Director-in-Chief Paul Thomas May and Assistant Director-in-Chief Peter Butler, with Lyle Johnson and Dr. Alf Knudsen each directing one piece. All of the solos were performed by member singers of the PCNSA; piano accompaniment was by Dr. Jeff Highland. The Pacific Sound Brass Quintet provided accompaniment to "Eternal Father, Strong to Save" and "Landkjenning" and entertained the singers and audience members with a

rousing "intermezzo." Another highlight of the evening was the premier of "Dance to the Sun," with words by Lyle Johnson, a second-generation member of the Thorsmen Chorus of Salem, Oregon, and set to the tune of a *bruremarsj*.

Sangerfest 2017 was the last appearance by Paul Thomas May with the PCNSA. Paul served as Director of the San Diego Mannskor while pursuing degrees at San Diego State University. During these years, Paul also directed the massed PCNSA choruses as both Assistant Director-in-Chief and as Director-in-Chief. Paul graduated in June 2017 with his Masters in Music, will be married in the summer of 2017, and then will relocate to Cleveland, Ohio. The members of the PCNSA will miss Paul's youthful musical leadership and offer best wishes to Paul and Elizabeth in their future endeavors.

Submitted by Pete Petersen  
PCNSA President

**HISTORY NOTES**

Luren member Lee Grippen recently received two articles of research from a LaCrosse WI source, telling about a person who was also part of Luren's early history. The following is gleaned from these articles.

Dubbed the "silver-toned tenor of the Northwest," Norwegian immigrant Emil Berg came to LaCrosse in 1869. He was asked by the President of the Normanna Sangerkor of LaCrosse to lead the chorus. The group wanted to advance in their musical studies, so they needed more professional leadership. Carl Jackwitz, who had founded the group, persuaded Berg to

come from Chicago. The Chorus even paid to move Bergø's family and upholstery business from Chicago to LaCrosse!

Berg directed Normanna Sangerkor from 1869-1874, then came to Decorah, where he became Director of Luren which had organized as a quartet in 1868, and reorganized as a chorus in 1874.. He returned to LaCrosse and directed again until his death in 1894.

During Bergø's directorship, the group took part in at least two concerts with the famous Norwegian violinist Ole Bull. In May 1872 they joined forces for a concert at Madison in the State Assembly Chambers to raise funds to start a "Norwegian Library" at the University of Wisconsin.

PART FIRST.	
1. Sons of Norway.....	National Air. Normanna Sangkor.
2. Kjempeaatten (Giant's Tune).....	Ole Bull.
3. Who's at my Window (Solo).....	G. A. Osborne. Miss Lizzie Foresman.
4. Martha (Piano Duet).....	Sidney Smith. Messrs. Smith and Chittenden.
5. Norwegian Airs.....	E. Griggs. Ole Bull.
PART SECOND.	
1. Brudefærden (Bridal Tour).....	Kjerulf. Normanna Sangkor.
2. Sæterbesøk.....	Ole Bull.
3. Waiting (Solo).....	Millard. Miss Lizzie Foresman.
4. Piano Duet, Ojos Greollos.....	Gottschalk. Messrs. Smith and Chittenden.
5. Scalders Blomma (The Flower of the Bards. Normanna Sangkor.	
6. Pantaala on Lilly Dale.....	Ole Bull.

Wisconsin State Journal, May 18, 1872, p4

Concert program of Normanna Sangerkor, featuring Ole Bull on violin.

At that concert, Normanna sang *Sønner av Norge*, *Brudefærden* and *Scalders Blomma*. The Wisconsin State Journal said "The Normanna Sangkor (sic) of LaCrosse is said to be the best choir of Norwegian singers

in America! It consists of 12 male voices."

While Berg was in Decorah, the LaCrosse chorus suspended activity. Eventually it became a singing group within the larger Norden Society. Over time a rival Norwegian singing group calling themselves the LaCrosse Norske Sangerkor evolved; it met on the North side of LaCrosse. Finally Berg invited the North Side group to join the Normanna Sangerkor in order for LaCrosse to have a strong showing at the 1890 National Sangerfest in Minneapolis.

The Director of the North Side group was Erik B. Rynning, who became the director of the combined chorus after Bergø's death in 1890.

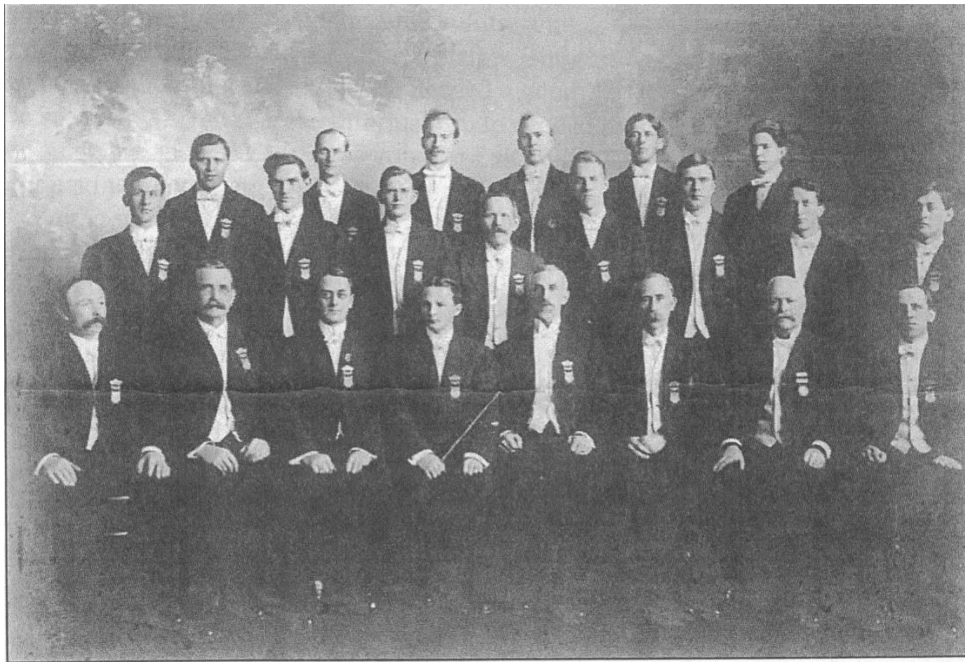
The LaCrosse chorus hosted one Sangerfest, held in Myrick Park in 1906 with "Professor" Eivind O. Forseth at the baton. It was the largest Sangerfest held up to that point.

In April 1903 a fire resulted in loss of the group's records and regalia that had been stored on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Norden Hall where the group met.

Nevertheless the Normanna Sangerkor celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 1909 and sang Songs of Norway, arranged by I. R. Hald; *Tonens Maft* by Reissinger; *Sigurd Jorsalfar* and *Nørronnafolket* by Grieg; *Ulabrand* by Wendelborg; and *Landkjending* by Grieg.

That 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration was held in Germania Hall, the home of German social and cultural life. The two groups did collaborate on a few other occasions.

"Professor" Forseth died in 1953. In spite of efforts to regroup, it did not, so Normanna disbanded ca 1954.

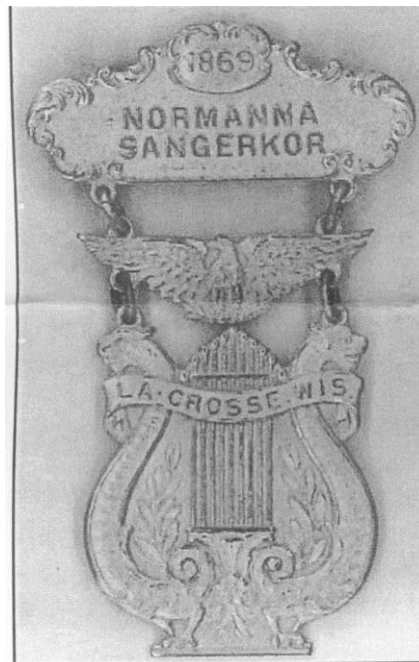


*Normanna Sangerkor, 1912*

Emil Berg was born at Trondhjem, Norway Dec. 12, 1843. His father was a military officer; his mother was of Swedish ancestry, but born in Norway. He had a reputation for musical gifts before emigrating in 1866. He settled in Chicago and that fall organized the Nora Society, the first Norwegian musical organization in that city.

Berg was married in LaCrosse to Ella Ranber (or Ella Randine Ranberg). She, one son Ebba (1872-1947) and two daughters, Ragna (1875- after 1911) and Nora (1878-1937) were survivors at his death in May 1890. A 17-day old baby also is buried with the parents.

Our thanks to Lee Grippen, and especially to Anita Taylor Doering, Archivist/Manager of Archives at the LaCrosse WI public library.



Normanna Sangerkor badge style first worn in 1912.

**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 7:30 p.m. at 1<sup>st</sup> United Methodist Church, 9857 Schiller Blvd. Franklin Park IL 60131. 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, [ed.kramer@ATT.net](mailto:ed.kramer@ATT.net).

**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: Richard Fjeldheim, 831 Marseilles Circle, Buffalo Grove IL 60089, tel. (847)215-8467. Recording Secretary: Frank Potempa, 1788 W. Sherwood Rd., [fcpotempa@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fcpotempa@sbcglobal.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 [gregors5@juno.com](mailto:gregors5@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: Dan Alstad, 19714 Co. Rd. 4, Spring Grove MN 55974. tel. 507-498-3676, [dalstad@springgrove.coop](mailto:dalstad@springgrove.coop) .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, 5115 S. Rolling Green Ave. #210, Sioux Falls, SD 57108. tel. (605) 371-0669. [mvelgersdyk@midco.net](mailto:mvelgersdyk@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: David Lien, 1800 Split Rock Blvd., Brandon SD 57005, tel. (605)582-3565; Corresponding Secretary: Gail Kristensen, 111 W. 17<sup>th</sup> St., Apt. #110, Sioux Falls, SD 57104, tel. (605)731-5281 [mrgail@sio.midco.net](mailto:mrgail@sio.midco.net). Director: Lyle E. Kroon, 1216 Sunset Drive, Sioux Falls, SD 57105, tel. (605) 212-1309.

**CANTON**

**Grieg Male Chorus**

Rehearsals: Each Monday, 7:30 p.m. at Canton Good Samaritan Center. President: Doug Olseth, 626 N Broadway St., Canton SD 57013, tel (605)764-2928, [olenorsk54@hotmail.com](mailto:olenorsk54@hotmail.com). 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, tel.(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: Dick Johnston, 26 Chautauqua Tr., Madison WI 53719, (608) 833-6284 [richarj@charter.net](mailto:richarj@charter.net). Corresponding Secretary: Dick Johnston, 26 Chautauqua Tr., Madison WI 53719, (608) 833-6284 [richarj@charter.net](mailto:richarj@charter.net) ; Director: Jonathan Schroerlucke, 117 S. Franklin St., Stoughton WI 53589-2218.

**SIoux VALLEY SINGERS  
ASSOCIATION**

**OFFICERS:**

President: Ray Schnabel, 2201 Pebble Beach Ln, Brandon SD 59005. Vice President TBA. Secretary: Gail Kristensen, 111 W. 17<sup>th</sup> St., Apt #110, Sioux Falls SD 57104, tel: (605) 731-5281, [mrgail@sio.midco.net](mailto:mrgail@sio.midco.net); Treasurer: David Stene, 2315 S. Cliff Ave. No.6, Sioux Falls SD 57105, 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 [o.petersen@gmail.com](mailto:o.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: Doug Wright, 11921 81<sup>st</sup> Ave E, Puyallup WA 98373, tel. (253)604-4980 [douglas.r.wright@gmail.com](mailto:douglas.r.wright@gmail.com). Treasurer: Rick Olson, 8726 Shadowood Dr, Everett WA 98208, (425)337-0795, [olymeister20@comcast.net](mailto:olymeister20@comcast.net); Trustees: California: vacant  
Oregon: Paul Flora, 6042 Cottonwood St NE, Salem OR 97317 [paulflora@pgn.com](mailto:paulflora@pgn.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: vacant  
;Director-in-Chief: Paul May, tel. (619)227-9979 [paulthomasmay@gmail.com](mailto:paulthomasmay@gmail.com) Asst. Director-in-Chief: : Peter Butler, 31869 Eastway, Lebanon, OR 97355, tel. (503) 259-2006, [whitewolf372@centurytel.net](mailto:whitewolf372@centurytel.net)

## CALIFORNIA

### OAKLAND

#### Normanna Glee Club

Rehearsal: time and place unknown  
President: Larry Schaleger, [qubedude@ajk.cin](mailto:qubedude@ajk.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: Herlev 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](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, 2694 Goshen Rd., Bellingham, WA 98226, cell phone (360)303-3919, [stmjensen@earthlink.net](mailto: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](mailto:craig_fredlund@jamco-america.com). Secretary: Robert Bruland, tel. (425)335-1150 [bruland2@comcast.net](mailto:bruland2@comcast.net). Director: Steve Jensen, 2694 Goshen Rd., Bellingham, WA 98226, cell phone (360)303-3919, [stmjensen@earthlink.net](mailto: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](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 Eysteinson, tel. (205)799-8000, [JensEysteinson@AmericanSeaffods.com](mailto:JensEysteinson@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

#### 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, 2694 Goshen Rd., Bellingham, WA 98226, cell phone (360)303-3919, [stmjensen@earthlink.net](mailto: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](mailto:o.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)



PCNSA 2017 Sangerfest Grand Concert at San Diego CA.

**Attention** Chorus presidents or secretaries. Please send an updated roster of officers and members to Don Berg. Include complete addresses, and for officers include phone numbers. Thank you.