

Sangerfest 2022

Life events last only moments, but fond memories last forever.

The anticipation of Sangerfest 2022 has been ever-present since the last Sangerfest in Decorah in 2018. But it finally arrived, and seemingly passed in mere moments. Considering the toll that time, age and passing of men has taken on our membership, we had a very respectable and enthusiastic group of men, spouses, and companions, and by all measures a successful Sangerfest.

The infamous traveling NSAA medallion was unboxed and hoisted into place. Setup of the risers provided some moments of anxiety, as construction of the risers started late, and took much longer than expected, but was completed with several minutes to spare before the opening ceremonies. Rehearsals were productive under the expert guidance of Director In Chief, David Judisch, and Assistant Directors, Edwin Kramer and Linda Svanoe.

The evening afterglows seemed to be very well received. The traditional Parade of Choruses was replaced by “pop-up” performances by choruses, small groups, and individuals. The music and dance of the Wiscandia, and sing-along offered during the final afterglow were also very well received.

A variety of activities and demonstrations were provided by the Activities and Hospitality Committees. The Scandinavian cookies and treats were great, but the accompanying hospitality was even greater.

An interesting twist to Sangerfest 2022 was that Sangerfest and the Sons of Norway District 5 convention were held under the same roof at the same time. This proved to be a win-win situation, as many of the activities were shared, and members of the Sons of Norway provided us with an enthusiastic and sizable audience for the Grand Concert. Many comments were received asking if future Sangerfests and Sons of Norway district meetings could be held together.

And of course, the highlight of Sangerfest 2022 was the Grand Concert. It’s a thrill and honor to sing under the directorship of our talented musical directors. And the special guest artists, the Middleton Community Orchestra, soloist Brian Leeper, and pianist Jessica Paul, were superb.

A special thanks goes out to the Edvard Grieg Chorus of Dane County, their committee chairs committee members and helpers who made Sangerfest 2022 a success.

As we close the chapter on Sangerfest 2022, we look forward with anticipation to the hosts of Sangerfest 2024---the Luren Singing Society.

Sangerfest 2022 was but a fleeting moment, but one we’ll treasure in our memories.

President Paul Larson