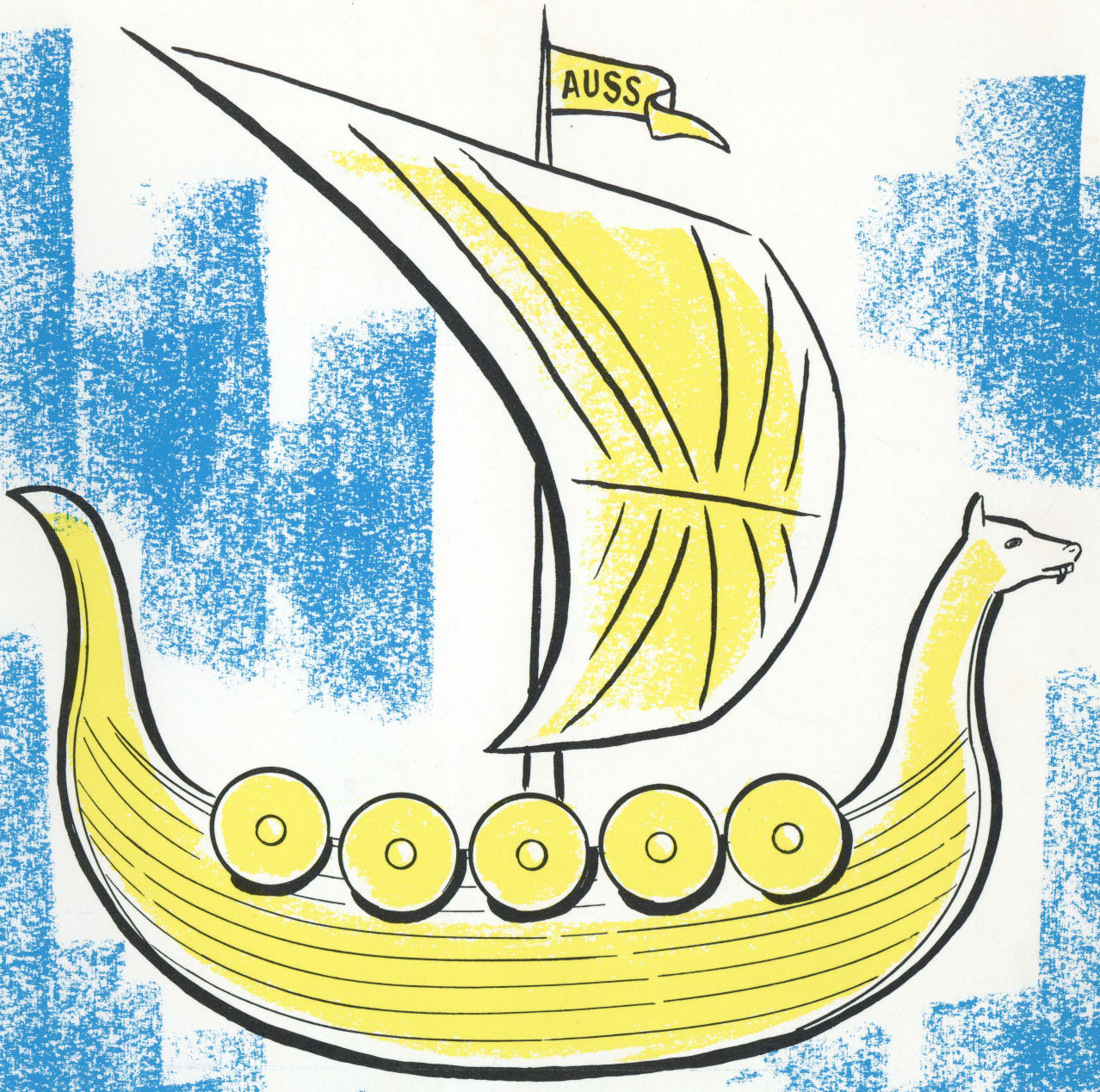


SÅNGARFEST

1972

JULY 5-9

SWEDISH GLEE CLUB

SGC

WAUKEGAN, ILL.

CENTRAL DIVISION

American Union of Swedish Singers

FESTIVAL PROGRAM



WAUKEGAN, ILLINOIS, JULY 5-9, 1972

Published by

THE CONVENTION COMMITTEE



STATE OF ILLINOIS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SPRINGFIELD 62706

RICHARD B. OGILVIE
GOVERNOR

Swedish Glee Club
621 Belvidere Street
Waukegan, Illinois 60085

Dear Friends:

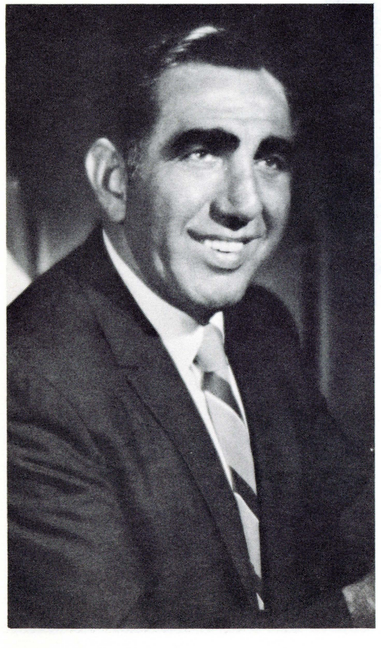
On behalf of 11 million Illinois citizens, including some of the most robust Swedish voices anywhere in America, a hearty welcome to Waukegan and Illinois.

The happy objectives of your gathering--to raise your voices in song and work for the preservation of Swedish cultural traditions--make your quadrennial convention a welcome addition to the scene in an age of seemingly endless problems. Your Glee Clubs are vital elements in the leadership and civic activity of many Illinois communities.

It has been far too long since your convention last visited our state. I hope the great success of your 1972 outing will prompt you to hurry back soon.

Sincerely,

Richard B. Ogilvie
Governor



OFFICE OF
THE MAYOR
WAUKEGAN, ILLINOIS

August 27, 1971

To the Members of the American
Union of Swedish Singers

I take pleasure in extending my heartiest greetings and the felicitations of the people of Waukegan, Illinois to all who participate in the 1972 convention of the American Union of Swedish Singers here in our City, July 5 through July 9.

The quality of musically expressed cheerfulness is a dominant trait of Americans of Swedish descent. The people of Swedish descent have made many great contributions to the cultural and industrial climate of Waukegan. Their warmth and sincerity radiate their love for their fellow men.

We in Waukegan know that your counter parts will welcome you with open arms and you will be warmed in their glow of true American Swedish hospitality.

We look forward with joy to your visit and know you will be happy that you chose Waukegan for the site of your Convention.

Welcome to our City.

Sincerely,

Robert Sabonjian
Mayor

RS:cw



ROYAL CONSULATE GENERAL OF SWEDEN
333 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
CHICAGO 1, ILLINOIS

With the Compliments of
The Royal Consulate General of Sweden
in Chicago

B. G. JARNSTEDT
Consul General

GREETINGS FROM CHICAGO

Celebrating our 90th year of song

Fellow singers will always find a

warm welcome at

SVITHIOD SINGING CLUB

K. HANSEN, Director Emeritus
625 WRIGHTWOOD AVENUE

JOHN A. CARLSON, Director
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



Greetings from

Henry Granat

President

AMERICAN UNION OF SWEDISH SINGERS

On behalf of the Executive Board of the American Union of Swedish Singers, I wish to extend warmest greetings to all Brother Singers, Ladies, and Friends who participate in this great Central Division Convention. Efforts such as these, contribute to our country's greater understanding of Scandinavian Songs and Culture. In the mid-Western part of our United States and Canada, Scandinavian people worked hard and did much to develop the country from pioneer times. The Singing Convention, such as we have here in Waukegan, has been part of the tradition since the late 1800's.

Our sincere thanks are given to the Convention Committee, to the Ladies Auxiliary and the many supporting friends and patrons that have made this Central Division Convention possible.

May the tradition of song and fellowship of our Singing Conventions continue to be with us and enjoyed for many years to come.

Greetings from

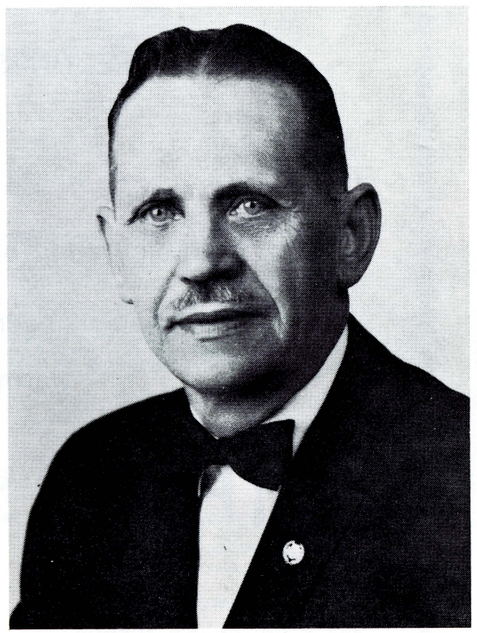
Ernest W. Gunnarsson

President

CENTRAL DIVISION

Once again we are here to celebrate another Singing Festival of Central Division of the American Union of Swedish Singers. It gives me great pleasure to extend the warmest greetings to all singers, their families and friends, who are attending the Festival.

On behalf of the officers of the Central Division may I extend to the Swedish Glee Club and its Ladies Auxiliary our most sincere thanks and appreciation for the responsibility to host the 1972 Convention in your beautiful Club in Waukegan.



A Brief History of the Waukegan Swedish Glee Club

The roots of the Swedish Glee Club of Waukegan go back to 1892 when a Swedish quartet was organized by Hjalmar Fredbeck. This quartet—composed of the Fredbeck brothers Hjalmar, Harald, and Simon, and K. Hagstrom—and another quartet formed two years later after the first one disbanded, are the genesis of the Glee Club.

In 1905 a double quartet which had been formed a year earlier expanded into a chorus and was christened "The Swedish Glee Club." The Club was organized as a social and singing club. The first director was Gustaf Stark and the first president was Richard Rinaldo.

After a short period of dormancy, the club was re-activated in 1913 when Axel Fredbeck came from Sweden and became the director. Fredbeck served as director from that time until 1941.

The club's affiliation with the American Union of Swedish Singers dates to the year 1913. Since then it has faithfully participated in the activities of that organization.

Since 1941 Viktor Hedgren has directed the Chorus. The singing ("active") membership of the club is composed of about 70 men, while the associate membership currently numbers about 3500. The active membership maintains complete control over the assets and activities of the Club.

Standard formal concerts during the year are the fall concert, the Julmiddag concert, and the spring concert. In addition, the Chorus sings at many social occasions such as the Midsummer Festival, and performs concerts in churches and for other organizations.

During the earliest years of the Glee Club, rehearsals were held in homes. Later a hall was rented. In 1949 the present home of the club was built. Since then additions have been made to the building and the members now enjoy the use of their good facilities for the varied activities of the club. One of the social highlights of the year's activities is the annual picnic generally held in August which is free for all the members. (1969)

COMMITTEES CENTRAL DIVISION CONVENTION

General Co-Chairmen:	Richard G. Vojtko & Sven G. Osterlund
Treasurer:	Warren L. Johnson
Financial Secretary:	George A. Olson
Concert Master:	Raoul C. Geary
Festival Chairman:	Clarence Olson
Transportation Chairman:	Charles A. McBride
Housing Chairman:	Carl E. Johnson
Food Chairman:	Roland Hagglund
Rehearsal & Concert Chairman:	Eskil P. Janson
Registration Chairman:	Olov Lindberg
Ticket Chairman:	Walton Anderson
Publicity Chairman:	Fredric R. Fortney
Entertainment & Special Events Chairman:	Robert G. Bjorklund
Souvenier Program Chairman:	Richard G. Vojtko
Photographer:	Lawrence Lauret

LADIES CONVENTION COMMITTEES

Chairman:	Mrs. Richard Vojtko
Co-Chairman:	Mrs. Eric Lindberg
Decorations:	Mrs. Warren Johnson, Chairman Mrs. Harold Dahl, Co-Chairman
Transportation:	Mrs. Charles McBride, Chairman
Hostess & Gift:	Mrs. Uno Toika, Chairman Mrs. Lawrence Lauret, Co-Chairman
Entertainment:	Mrs. Ruben Olson, Chairman & President Ladies Auxiliary

Best Wishes

from

Schlitz

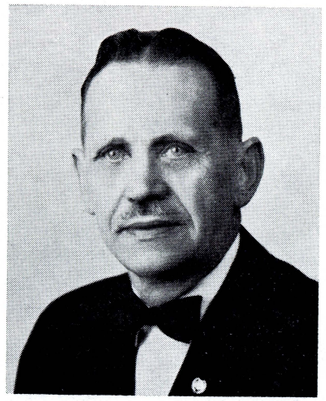
JACK DONELSON SALES CO.

WAUKEGAN, ILLINOIS

Central Division Executive Board 1968-1972



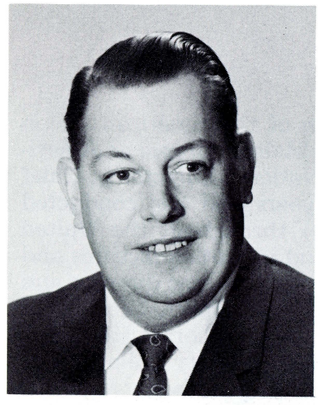
Paul F. Haglund, Hon. President



Ernest W. Gunnarsson, President



Eskil Janson, 1st Vice President



Bertil Schon, 2nd Vice President



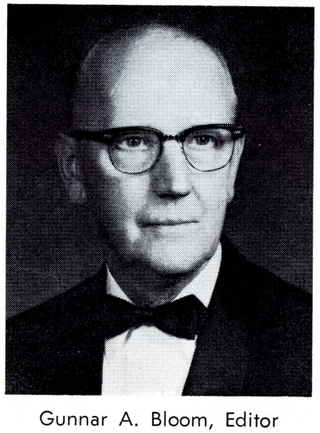
Al Nystrom, Treasurer



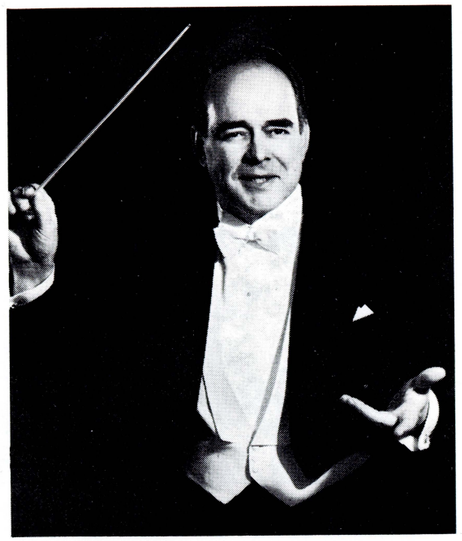
Rudolph F. Meyer, Financial Sec'y



Richard G. Vojtko, Secretary



Gunnar A. Bloom, Editor
Musiktidning



Dr. Robert Ekström, Director-in-Chief of the
Central Division of the American Union
of Swedish Singers

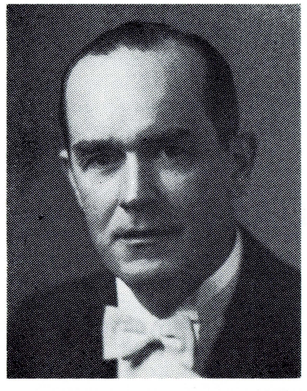
Dr. Robert Ekstrom, Director-in-Chief ofthe Central Division of the American Union of Swedish Singers, is also National Director-in-Chief of the Swedish Male Choruses of America and directs the United Swedish Singers of Chicago. He has been National Director-in-Chief of the Norwegian Women Singers League of America for fourteen years and has conducted Swedish, Norwegian, and Finnish Choirs (as well as other groups) throughout the United States and Canada. He has appeared on radio, stage, and television and in motion pictures and was soloist of the world-famous Great Lakes Bluejackets during the war. He was director and President of the Associated Male Choruses of America, Upper Midwest District, Director of the Duluth, Minnesota, Male Chorus and the Pasadena, California, Male Chorus. He was a Director of Music for the City of Los Angeles, Professor of Music at Pasadena City College, sang in the Hollywood Bowl, made records at Capitol, was a member of the Roger Wagner Chorale, directed music in the Rose Bowl and made three European concert tours. The first included singing for the coronation of the Queen of England. The second included sixty appearances with an American Choir in Europe. The last, in 1968, was a tour of eight countries with 101 members of the Swedish Choral Club of Chicago under his direction. In 1970 he directed at the National Convention of the A.U.S.S. in the San Francisco Opera House and directed a group of men from the A.U.S.S. on the first Swedish singing tour of the Hawaiian Islands. He was first elected Assistant Director-in-Chief of the Central Division of the American Union of Swedish Singers at the convention in Rockford in 1952 and has been Director-in-Chief since 1960. He was chosen Asst. Director-in-Chief of the whole union in Salt Lake City in 1958 and held that position until he became National Director in 1970.

He is Head of the Music Dept. at Lindblom Technical High School, is Director of the Chicago Choral Society, directs the Orphei Male Chorus, The R. R. Donnelley Chorus, The Scottish Rite Cathedral Chorus and several other groups. He is Music Consultant for the Southwest Fine Arts Council and has directed large groups in performances of the Messiah, Elijah, The Creation, etc., in Orchestra Hall, often directing the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and members of the Lyric Opera Orchestra in performances of these great works. He was born in Duluth, Minnesota, of Swedish parents, taught music there for twenty-two years and was President of The Swedish Cultural Society. He received his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Music Education from the University of Minnesota and his Doctor of Music Education Degree from the University of Southern California.

Grand Concert Directors



Viktor Hedgren, Honorary
Director-in-Chief, AUSS
and Director of Waukegan
Swedish Glee Club



Knute Hansen, Honorary
Director-in-Chief, AUSS



Carl S. Mustonen
Asst. Director-in-Chief
Central Division

SWEDISH AMERICAN MUSEUM

This archival record has been partially scanned, including covers and initial pages for each issue. For more information about a particular issue of this publication, please contact the Swedish American Museum Curator.