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Two Hundred Småland Singers On America Tour

Singers from Småland, numbering nearly two hundred and fifty from twenty-five different choirs, will fly to America and give concerts the two last weeks of June this year at the United Nations in New York, at "Svenskarnas Dag" in Minneapolis, at Augustana College in Rock Island, and at a Swedish club in Chicago.

The initiative for this trip comes from Bertil Oscarsson in Tranås, who is the vice president of the Association of Småland Singers, which is the second largest in Sweden with 850 members. An honorary member of Tranås Male Choir, Seth Håkansson, of East Granby in Connecticut, formerly the head of the Association of Eastern Swedish Singers and well-known in Swedish singing circles all over the country, is helping with arrangements for the Småland singers.

Bertil Oscarsson has been dreaming about a singing trip like this for years with the Tranås Choir, and so has the choir in Växjö, but until now it has not been possible to realize these plans. Among the singing members will be representatives, among others, from choirs in Eksjö and Nässjö, in addition to thirty from Tranås.

After the U.N. concert and sightseeing in New York, the trip continues to Washington, stopping off at Christina Park and Old Swedes Church, and then excursions to Williamsburg and Richmond, before flying to Minneapolis. From there they will visit the North West Company Fur Post, and Mora.

The preliminary itinerary is as follows:

- June 14 — Leave Gothenburg for New York
- June 15 — Sightseeing in New York
- June 16 — Bus trip to Washington and Wilmington for sightseeing
- June 17 — Sightseeing in Washington
- June 18 — Sightseeing in Virginia
- June 19 — Flying to Minneapolis

NORDIC GLEE CLUB YOUTHFUL AT 90

The Nordic Glee Club, oldest of the singing societies, celebrated its 90th anniversary on November 3 with a gala banquet at the Riverview in Hastings-on-Hudson, N. Y. Members and friends of the group enjoyed the handsome setting, the prime ribs of beef and dancing to the music of Gus and Ruth Johnson's orchestra.

President of the Nordic Glee Club Philip Ekstrom welcomed the guests and Hans Olson acted as master of ceremonies. The invocation was given by Nels Nelson, an effective substitute when Pastor and Mrs. Evert Olson were delayed in arriving. During the evening the Glee Club, under the direction of Arthur Frantz gave several examples of the music

June 20 — Sightseeing around Minneapolis and St. Paul. Concert at Swedish-American Institute

June 21 — Rehearsal

June 22 — Concert at "Svenskarnas Dag"

June 23 — Sightseeing in the historical Swedish emigrant country

June 24 — Bus to Rockford and visit to the Erlander Home. Concert in the afternoon.

June 25 — Bus to Rock Island. Open air concert in the evening at Augustana College

June 26 — Via Bishop Hill to Chicago

June 27 — Sightseeing. Concert in the evening at a Swedish club.

June 28 — Free. Visit to relatives, shopping, etc.

June 29 — Boat trip on the Chicago River. Depart for Sweden from O'Hare airport.

June 30 — Arrive at Gothenburg.

The entire tour in U.S.A. is handled by Nelson World Travel (Martin and Don Ahlm).

for which they have become so well known and loved.

Guests included Gunnard H. Peterson, president of the Eastern Division of the American Union of Swedish Singers and his wife; Seth Hokanson, hon. Director-in-Chief of the AUSS, and Gerhard T. Rooth, editor emeritus of Nordstjernan-Svea. Mr. Lars Sundman, of Bridgeport, the president of the national AUSS, sent greetings but was prevented by illness from attending.

Gerry Rooth spoke of his 60 year relationship with the group, originally known as the Scandinavian Workmen's Singing Society, and of the long-time owner and publisher of Nordstjernan, Charles K. Johansen, who was one of the most prominent among Swedish singers for many years. Rooth was for a time also the editor of the monthly publication of the American Union of Swedish Singers, Musiktidning.

Joyce Ekstrom, president of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Nordic Glee Club, presented the club with a check for \$500 to further their activities. It was gratefully accepted by Club president Philip Ekstrom, her husband. Bertil Johanson was honored by being presented a certificate for his 36 years of devoted service to the Club.

A song, "Gammaldansbana," composed many years ago by Annette Berggren Hassel and set to music by Dr. Viola Spongberg-Holmberg, has proved very popular over the years. Nels Nelson sang it for the audience while Dr. Viola accompanied him on the piano.

The Nordic Glee Club holds weekly rehearsals at the Spence School, 22 East 91st Street, New York, and is always looking for new voices to lift their voices in song. Present officers are Philip Ekstrom, president; Walter Swanson, vice president; Arthur Lundquist, recording secretary; Arne Eriksson, corresponding secretary; John Magnusson, financial secretary, and Ernest Lundquist, treasurer.

APK (Nordstjernan-Svea)

FROM THE AUSS FINANCIAL SECRETARY

1979 was a good year for the AUSS as far as membership goes. For the first time in many years the decline was reversed, mainly because of the admittance of the 33 voices strong Swedish Women's Chorus in Seattle. Some choruses showed a very healthy gain, notably St. Paul Swedish Male Chorus, St. Paul, (7), American Swedish Institute Male Chorus, Minneapolis, (5), and Scandia Male Chorus, Salt Lake City, (5). There were some losses, too. Svithiod Singing Club of Chicago led the loss-list with 6 singers less than a year ago. Four choruses showed no change.

For 1980, payments for dues and subscriptions have been received from the following groups:

- Apollo singing Society, New Haven, CT (20)
- Veteran Singers From Lyran, Rockford, IL (12)
- Norwegian Singing Society of San Francisco (9)

Veteran Singers From Lyran is a re-organized group from the Lyran Singing Society.

The Norwegian Singing Society of San Francisco contributed an extra \$100.00 to Musiktidning to help ease the economic burden caused by the seemingly never ending inflation. With this donation the Norwegian Singing Society has shown an understanding of the situation that hopefully could set a pattern for the rest of our membership.

For a happy and better New Year,

Gunnar Nordstrom.

Svea Male Chorus

Seattle, Wash.

New officers elected for the year 1980 are as follows: President, Mel Erickson; Vice Pres., Bob Wallin; Treas., Maurice Bursett; Ass't Treas., Harold Heggen; Sec'y, Alf Ahron; Ass't Sec'y, Dennis Jenkins; Historian, Emery Gustafson; Marshal, Steve Hanson; Custodian, Arvid Naas; Librarians, Gottfrid Nelson, Maury Rylander; Auditors, Eric Sve-lander, Maury Rylander.

Our very special thanks to Gunnar Nordstrom and his helpers who prepared that super delicious dinner with "jul-skinka" and all the trimmings on Dec. 4th. Tables decked with candles, holly and the brightly decorated plates of food not only tempted our taste buds but pleased the eye as well and instilled the holiday spirit both in us and about us.

Carl V. Winquist was honored by his son and a number from the Svea Male Chorus at a luncheon at the Swedish Club on December 20th, on his 75th birthday. How some guys can look so young and emanate so much vitality and tonal quality in spite of the years is a true tribute to his Scandinavian heritage and long association with Svea Male Chorus.

The ever alert and faithful Svea Ladies Auxiliary reported a very successful "Mini Bazaar" on December 4th.

December 5th another of our faithful and beloved members was laid to rest. Marvin O. Anderberg, 1899-1979. Rev. R. J. Bingea of the University Luth. Church gave a beautiful eulogy about Marvin. It is with sadness we say farewell to a brother and friend. Svea associates served as pallbearers and Dave Linden read a favorite scripture in Swedish. Svea sang one of Marvin's favorite numbers, "O store Gud."

Marvin will be missed by all of us and I know from my past association with him that he always enjoyed his choral work with the Svea Male Chorus.

Year end comment by your outgoing President: The last four years have been filled with hard work, plans, coordination and fun. It has been a privilege and pleasure to serve as your president these past years and your patience and faithfulness has been superb and much appreciated. We have tried to do our best but that is never perfect and hope you will forgive and forget our sins of commission and omission. Mel Erickson is a good man and will make a great leader of our group. Let's give him our 100 percent support!

Bert B. Sellin.

Eastern Division Singers' Convention, June 25--28

The news from Jamestown deals mostly with the up-coming Eastern Division Singers' Convention, which is to be held in Jamestown on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, June 25, 26, 27, and 28, Viking Male Chorus host chorus. The various committees are hard at work planning the various phases of the convention, trying to fit everything into place. All the members of the chorus are out, selling ads for the souvenir program, and this project is going well.

In addition to working hard on the convention numbers at our weekly Monday night rehearsal, we are also taking part in community activities. On Tuesday, November 6, the chorus sang for the Swedish Society at their monthly meeting. On Saturday evening, November 24, we participated in a program at the Salvation Army building, kicking off their annual Children's Christmas Fund drive. We were carolling on the streets of Jamestown the week before Christmas, and are planning a Mid-Winter Concert for late in February.

We are hoping for a good convention attendance of all the singers in the Eastern Division. We are planning a busy and varied program, including dancing in the club each night, lunches, dinners, tours for the women, and possibly an event at the Lake Park. Of course, the high point will be the Grand Concert on Friday night at the First Lutheran Church.

The committee members strongly urge that you get your reservations in early — now would be a good time to take care of this. We have reserved a block of rooms at the Holiday Inn, which is directly across the street from the Viking Club House. However, we must have all reservations in no later than Wednesday, June 4, 1980. This is three weeks prior to convention time, and at that time we will have to give up the unreserved rooms. Since the Holiday Inn is very busy at that time of year, it might be difficult, if not impossible, to get a room there without a reservation. *Therefore, we are urging early reservations.* The reservation cards are already in the mail. However, if for some reason you do not receive a reservation card, please use the one reproduced in the Musiktidning. All reservation cards, including those pre-addressed to the Holiday Inn, should be sent to:

Mr. Charles Magnuson
c/o E. Herman Magnuson Insurance Co.
101 Gokey Building
Jamestown, New York 14701

New officers of the Viking Male Chorus will be installed in January, 1980. The present officers are: President, Bob Youker; Vice-President, Al Erickson; Secretary, Bob Lindholm; Treasurer, Dick Sieberg; Trustees, Norm Lundine and Lorny Fagerstrom; Director, Walton Huestis. The Convention Chairman is Larry Ross.

Med Sångarhälsning,
Bob Lindholm.

* * *

Last August, I sent in an article for publication and due to not having a 1980 calendar I listed some wrong dates for our Eastern Division Convention. So to clarify it and also more publicity the correct dates are June 25th to June 28th, 1980 — Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

Now that I have got that off my chest, I'll tell you more about our recent meetings on the convention. We have had weekly meetings since last September with fairly good attendance. We have come up with some rather interesting ideas and some not.

As you know, we have a brand new Holiday Inn Motel right across the street from the Viking Temple. So between registration, dining, dancing, everything is within 200 feet, not counting the elevators. Larry Ross, our convention chairman, along with all his committees are working out the details of transportation, food, and entertainment.

Due to rising costs in everything, the motel has yet to give up prices of rooms and luncheons. We will inform each chorus secretary of that information when we learn it.

RESERVATION CARD

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Street and Number _____

City and State _____ Zip _____

Firm Name _____
One-Night Deposit
Must Accompany Reservation

Check-in after 12 PM

Arrival Date _____ No. of Persons _____

Check Out Hour 12 PM

Departure Date _____

Free parking for registered guests

A program book for the convention is being put together and rates for page advertising and pictures have been set.

We are looking for a fine convention — only you and you and the rest of you, coming to Jamestown, will make this the best Eastern Convention ever!!

So make your plans now and we will see you in June. Please remit the number of singers and wives to our chorus soon.

Sincerely,
Howard A. Lundgren,
Secretary '80 Convention.

Foundation Announces Prizes for Translations

The American-Scandinavian Foundation, in cooperation with PEN American Center (poets, playwrights, essayists, editors, and novelists), is pleased to announce the establishment of two Translation Prizes to be awarded annually in May. Two \$500 awards — one for poetry and one for fiction — will be given to the best translations of works by Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian or Swedish authors born after 1880.

Scandinavian Review, quarterly magazine of ASF, initiated the prize to further the Foundation's goal of bringing the best of contemporary Scandinavian literature to American readers. PEN, a long established and respected literary institution, will be responsible for final judgment of the winners.

Manuscripts submitted for this contest will also help supply material for a special literary issue of Scandinavian Review to be published annually in December, beginning in 1980.

For details and specific requirements for entries write to Kathleen Madden, American-Scandinavian Foundation, 127 East 73rd Street, New York, NY 10021.

DIPLOMACY

A woman walked into the shoe store, tried on a dozen pairs of shoes, without finding a proper fit.

Finally the bored assistant told her: "Madam, we can't fit you because one of your feet is larger than the other."

The woman stalked out of the store without buying.

In the next store the fitting proved equally difficult. Finally the smiling assistant explained: "Madam, did you know that one of your feet is smaller than the other?"

The woman left the store happily with two new pairs of shoes under her arm.

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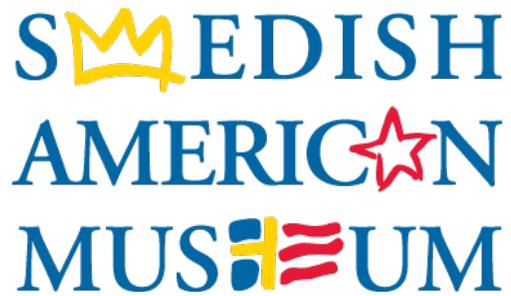
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