

NORDIC-AMERICAN PSALMODIKONFORBUNDET

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NOTES FROM MUSIC-ON-A STRING

By Beatrice Hole

We are almost through the Winter months and the weather has been a pleasure! Why would anyone want to go south?

I always like to spend the months after Christmas as a time for reflection and renewal. Often times my thoughts are of the Psalmodikon and how thankful I am for all of you folks that are playing the Psalmodikon and helping to keep the connection to our heritage.

It is always good to hear of your experiences with the Psalmodikon. More and more of you are going out and playing the Psalmodikon and telling others the history of an almost forgotten instrument. I think that is just great! We have come a long ways in promoting the story of the Psalmodikon. We now have formed our own little circle of friendships and the inquiries are coming to us and we are able to answer them.

I am looking forward to our next Annual Meeting. This year we will be meeting in Alexandria, MN. This city is located in central Minnesota in an area of beautiful lakes and many tourist attractions.

Make note that the meeting will be held in August this year. Hopefully, that will be a better time of the year to enable more folks to attend.

So, until next time...keep practicing!

Hilsen, Beatrice Hole



ANNUAL MEEING 2002

NORDIC-AMERICAN

PSALMODIKONFORBUNDET

AUGUST 23-25

WEST MOE LUTHERAN CHURCH

ALEXANDRIA, MN

COORDINATORS: THE FOSLIEN FAMILIES

Floyd Foslien has recommended the following motels in Alexandria. They are very nice motels and located close to one another. The West Moe Lutheran Church is out in the country, about 10 miles from the motels:

**AmericInn 4520 Highway 29 South
1-800-634-3444**

**Super 8 4620 Highway 29 South
1-800-800-8000**

Days Inn 320-762-1171

**Country Inn & Suites
1-800-456-4000**

Most of the Motels also have Internet Sites where you can make reservations and view the motel room rates and amenities. Make your reservations early as Alexandria has lots of things going on during the summer so you will be certain of accomodations.

(The following is translated from a recent Psalmodikon Newsletter from Sweden. I though you would enjoy it as we know so many of their members.) B.H.

Spelstamman

August 17-19, 2001 (Annual Meeting)
in Vanga — Sweden

This is the home of Helena Odvall-Enoksson. This area is known for their textiles, merchants and farmers. There were fewer Psalmodikons in this area as organs came into use much earlier.

Friday night—view slides of visit to Psalmodikon meeting in USA in 2000.

Saturday A.M.— Practice music and toured home of a guitar maker..

Saturday P.M.— Toured home of a collector of instruments.

Business meeting and coffee at home of Helena’s parents. Meeting was conducted by Lars-Eric Lauenstien.

After a supper of “potato casserole”, the Psalmodikon players gave a concert at a nearby Hall, followed by dancing.

Sunday morning the Psalmodikon players participated in a church service. After lunch they gave another concert at an old Mill, after which they were all presented with a sack of flour.

Coffee was served and farewells expressed.

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**Spelstamma 2002
Sweden**

August 16-18 in Tjallmo, Ostergotland

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To all Readers:

The editors and I are looking forward to hearing from you. To keep our Newsletters interesting, we ask that you continue to send us news articles, photos, music or anything that would be of interest to publish in our next Newsletters.

Tusen Takk B.H.

**IS THIS YOUR LAST ISSUE OF
THE PSALMODIKON
NEWSLETTER?**

Please look at your mailing label. If the date printed on the label reads “2001” you are not current on your membership dues. To publish the newsletter there are costs of postage which averages \$30.00 per issue; the cost of paper and ink cartridges which average over \$30 per issue. Because we have kept the membership fee at a modest \$5.00 per year, there is not available funds to subsidize Newsletter issues to members whose membership is not current. We don’t want to lose any members and say “thanks” for keeping your membership current. Send your memberships dues to Beatrice Hole.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We gratefully acknowledge with thanks the use of various pictures and material from the last issue of the “PSALMODIKA” newsletter of the “Nordiska Psalomodkonförbundet”. We felt you would enjoy hearing about their Annual Meeting agenda and the pictures, poem and song.

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Video Tapes for Sale:

“HOW TO PLAY THE PSALMODIKON”

Instructions on how to tune and play the Psalmodikon. Sifferskrift music included so that you can play along with the songs. The video also gives some history and will make good program material for a presentation about Psalmodikons.

Send \$15.00 to: Beatrice Hole

**6560 Leesborough Avenue
Eden Prairie, MN 55346
(952)934-4535**

E-Mail: Enstreng B@aol.com



Illustration by Ann-Margret Dahlquist-Ljungberg
Old Man sitting at the hearth with Psalmodikon



Lennart Hultin 1927-1987

Lennart Hultin (1927-1987) was a musician and he put a poem to music, as follows:



Anders Österling föddes 1884 i Helsingborg men växte upp i Malmö. Under tio år var han biblioteksamanuens i Lund innan han blev litteraturkritiker i Stockholm. Debuterade 1904 med diktsamlingen "Preludier". 1919 blev han medlem av Svenska Akademin och var dess ständige sekreterare 1941 – 1964. Medlem av Nobelkommittén från 1921. Bland flera utmärkelser fick han Taubestipendiet 1963. Österling avled 1981.

Psalmodikon

En torpare spelar psalmodikon i stugan vid spiselhällen, och toner om Salem och Libanon förljuva den fattiga kvällen.

Vem hör hans spel, om ej Herren Gud från sfirerna lånar sitt öra? Det är en lovsång i armodsskrud och intet för världen att höra.

Det ringa blir stort på oändlighetshäll så länge hans sångspel klingar, är jorden mer än en viltsen boll som kretsar i ödsliga ringar

I rutans och glödens blandade ljus han famlar med darrande knogar, och psalmen blandas med stillsamt sus från höstliga myrar och skogar.

Han spelar, en åldrande, bortglömd man. Men kanske den högste där ovan i ondskans tider är ensam som han och tackar för hägkomstgåvan?

1922 kom diktsamlingen "De sju strängarna" ut där psalmodikondikten ingår.

Anders Osterling wrote this poem about a very old man who lived alone in a little house with humble belongings. One of his possessions was a Psalmodikon and with the music he played and sang praises to God. (Would anyone be able to translate this poem for our readers? BH)

Noter & Siffror

Psalmodikon

Text: Anders Österling Musik: Lennart Hultin 1987

En tor - pa - re spe - lar psal - mo - di - kon
 1 1 1 -6 4 4 -6 5-6 5+3 4

I stu - gan vid spi - sel - häl - len
 5-6 5 -6 -7 -2 1 1

Och to - ner om Sa - lem och Li - ba - non
 1 4 4 -3 -2 -2 4 -3 4 -3 -2 1

För - lju - va den fat - ti - ga kväl - len.
 -7 -6 5 4 +3 1 +3 5 4 4