

NORDIC-AMERICAN PSALMODIKONFORBUNDET

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AUGUST 2002



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NOTES FROM MUSIC-ON-A STRING

By Beatrice Hole

It has been an effort for me to settle down and write the Newsletter. My husband and I just returned from a fun trip through Sweden, Norway and Copenhagen. We visited in eleven homes and experienced a great big warm welcome wherever we went! It was during my final planning of the trip, that I realized we would be driving right through the town of Svenstavik, Sweden, where Janne Martensson and Eric & Marianne Rorborn live. With the help of E-mail our plans were finalized. We had a great time visiting and, of course, playing the Psalmodikons together. Now Janne and I are even! It was in 1999 that he was in Minnesota and stopped by our house for coffee and Psalmodikon music.

We are looking forward to August 24 & 25 for the Great Get Together "The Nordic-American Psalmodikonforbundet"! I know we will have a fun time as there is a lot of Psalmodikon history in the Alexandria area. You might want to allow some extra time to relax, sightsee or shop in the "heart of beautiful lake country". There is a nice Scandinavian Shop, a Violin Shop or perhaps visit the Runestone Museum.

Several of us have booked rooms at the Country Inn & Suites on Hwy. 29 South. There will be a reception in the front lounge for those of you who are coming into town on Friday evening. It is always a fun time to get together before the big weekend begins.

So, until next time...keep practicing!

Hilsen, Beatrice Hole

**ANNUAL MEETING 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**



Eric Rorborn, Beatrice Hole and
Janne Martensson in Roron, Sweden—June 2002



**West Moe Lutheran Church
16249 County Road #8 NW
Brandon, MN**

West Moe Lutheran Church is the oldest church of Norwegian heritage in Douglas County. The congregation was organized in 1867 and the church was built in 1876. Worship services are still

held regularly and occasionally there is a special Norwegian service.

Friday, August 23—Evening reception at the Country Inn and Suites

Saturday, August 24 -

9:00 a.m. Workshop & practice at West Moe Lutheran Church.

Noon—Lunch served by Fran Foslien

1:00 p.m.—Business meeting & more music.

6:00 p.m.—Dinner

Sunday, August 25 -

9:00 a.m.—Psalmodikon participation at the dedication of log house monument located at Woodside Farm.

10:00 a.m.—Worship service at West Moe Lutheran Church with Psalmodikon music.

Following the Sunday morning worship service, the Psalmodikon members have been invited, as special guests, to attend the noon lunch of the Foslien Family reunion.



Map with directions to West Moe Church

**WELCOME TO ALL ATTENDING
THE NORDIC-AMERICAN
PSALMODIKONFORBUNDET!**

**ANNUAL MEETING ATTENDANCE
AND RESERVATION FORM**

Yes, I (we) will be attending the Psalmodikon Annual Meeting on August 24 & 25.

_____ Number attending meeting and lunch Saturday.

We can stay for the Sunday Morning Worship, dedication and lunch.

_____ Yes _____ No

Name: _____

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Our thanks to Fran Foslien who has volunteered to prepare and serve the noon lunch at the Psalmodikon meeting. Please let us know if you will attend the lunch so the she can plan accordingly.

Ole bought Lena a Psalmodikon for her birthday. A few weeks later Lars inquired how she was doing with it. "Oh," said Ole, "I persuaded her to switch to a clarinet." "How come?" asked Lars. "Vell," Ole answered, "because vith a clarinet, she can't sing."

The following is the English translation of "Psalmodikon", courtesy of John Langtind of Orkdal, Norway. (This poem was written in the last Newsletter)

PSALMODIKON
Anders Osterling

A poor farmer is playing his psalmodikon
In the little house, at the open fireplace,
And tunes about Salem and Lebanon
Brighten the poor evening.



Who is hearing his play, if not God the Lord
From high spheres is lending his ear?
It is a hymn in poor man's dress
And nothing to hear by the world.



In the mixed light from the window and fireplace
He seeks with his shivering knuckles,
And the psalm mingles with silent whistling
From fall-faded marshes and forests.



He's playing, this old and forgotten man,
But may be the Highest in heaven
In hard times feels lonely like him
And thanks for the sign of not being forgotten.



The smallest thing grows at endless distance.
As long as his song and play sounds
The earth is more than a mere lost ball
That moves in dreary circles.



Ann-Margret Dahlquist-Ljungberg who made this famous painting of the Psalmodikon, recently passed away.



Spelstämma 2002

August 16-18 in Tjällmo, Ostergotland, Sweden

The Nordiska Psalmodikon Förbundet are holding their annual meeting in Tjällmo, Sweden. Look on Page #7 for a few pictures from Tjällmo. We wish them the best for their meeting that includes lots of Psalmodikon playing and of course good fellowship and food. On Sunday they will play at the Tjällmo Kyrka.



Beatrice Hole was again invited to demonstrate the Psalmodikon at the Nordic Fest in Decorah, Iowa on July 25-27. Knowing Decorah in July, Beatrice was pleased to be playing in the "air conditioned" Bethania Church located across the street from the Vesterheim Museum. Hope some of you were able to be in Decorah for the Nordic Fest and visit with Beatrice and perhaps pick up a bow and play with her.