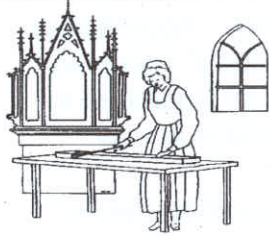


# NORDIC-AMERICAN PSALMODIKONFORBUNDET

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## NOTES FROM MUSIC-ON-A STRING

*By Beatrice Hole*

*As I write this Newsletter, I have many fond memories of another successful Psalmodikon gathering on the 24th and 25th of August. It was very well attended with visitors from the area dropping by all afternoon.*

*In Friday afternoon Rodger and I motored to Alexandria, the home of the Kensington Runestone. As we drove into town we could see “Big Ole” standing there to welcome us.*

*On Friday evening ten Psalmodikon members met at the Country Inn and Suites for a social gathering and refreshments. It was a fun evening of humor, laughter and stories of how we had learned of the Psalmodikon, where ours had come from and what we are doing to carry on the tradition. We were busy sharing music and making copies. The meeting broke up late evening. We were excited and full of enthusiasm for the next day. Who knows, maybe some went back to their rooms and practiced during the night!*

*By 9:00 a.m. on Saturday most everyone had arrived and were eager to start making music. What a beautiful setting for the 6th Annual Psalmodikon Meeting...The 126 yr. old Foslien family church (West Moe Lutheran), set on a hill overlooking a peaceful valley. We played many of our favorite tunes and I also had a chance to demonstrate my “acoustical” Psalmodikon!*

*We spent a lot of time learning “Softly and Tenderly”. In reading the church bulletin, we discovered that Pastor Olson had chosen this song for the Psalmodikons to play while the Congregation sang. I guess “practice makes perfect” as we played without missing a note on Sunday*

*morning and it was a very moving experience.*

*Lunch was followed by a brief business meeting. The Treasurer’s report was read (we were sorry that Larry and Deann Gjenvick were unable to be with us). A collection was taken to cover the cost of the lunch and a donation to the West Moe Church.*

*No date has been set for next years meeting. We are hoping that someone will contact us to be the volunteer host. Perhaps one of our readers will do us the honors!*

*Sunday morning dawned sunny and bright with no mosquitoes. What an experience as we drove into the old Foslien family farmyard and walked across the dewy grass to play our Psalmodikons for the unveiling and dedication of the monument that had been placed next to the original family homestead!*

*After the morning worship we joined the Foslien family reunion for a potluck dinner and then departed for home.*

*The 2002 Psalmodikon Meeting is now history. The weekend passed quickly and we always wish we had another day or two. But the friendships made and the music learned goes on forever!*

*It is soon time to join the thousands of others who will be attending their favorite Lutefisk dinners and to honor a tradition which is often only a once a year treat!*

*Wishing you all a happy Holdiday season and remember....keep practicing!*