

NORDIC-AMERICAN PSALMODIKONFORBUNDET

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NOTES FROM MUSIC-ON-A STRING By Beatrice Hole

Happy Spring!

As I write this Newsletter, we Minnesotans are beginning to wonder when the "white ground cover" will finally melt off and it will start to feel like Spring. We have had one of the longest and coldest Winters on record!

This year, 2001, did not get off to a real good start for my family and I. Just after Christmas my Mother was diagnosed with cancer of the liver. She lived only two more months and I spent most of that time with her at her home in Crookston, MN. My Dad passed away 22 years ago, but when the last parent dies, it gives one a feeling that is hard to put into words.

But life goes on and now I am trying to catch up on unfinished projects and getting back into a familiar routine once again.

We can look forward to the Spring and Summer months when musicians have many opportunities to not only participate in many festivals but also to hear and learn new tunes.

Perhaps some of you will have an opportunity to do a demonstration on the Psalmodikon. It is a very fun and easy presentation to do. The visitors like to hear the history/story of the Psalmodikon and to hear a few notes or a short little melody. It is nice to have a sheet of the old Sifferskrift music, maybe an outline of the history and, of course, your name card — for future reference. Give it a try—you can do it!

I appreciate all your kind letters regarding our fun meeting last Fall and also the Newsletter that followed. Hopefully, you can find some interesting facts in this letter also.

In the meantime, keep practicing!



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Mark your calendars for the next meeting of the Psalmodikon enthusiasts.

It will be held on the weekend of September 14, 15 & 16, 2001. I am still waiting for someone to volunteer and help host the next meeting. If not, I will most likely make arrangements for a weekend program here in the Minneapolis area. Let me know if you are interested in helping???



SUMMER PROJECT

As I travel around this Summer, one of my projects will be to compile a listing of photos and history on Psalmodikons that are located in the various Museums throughout the state of Minnesota. I would appreciate your help on this as I will not be able to be in contact with all of them. Let me know what you find, and where it is located.