

NORDIC-AMERICAN PSALMODIKONFORBUNDET

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INSIDE:

- Web Site News — Page 2
Letters from members — Page 3
Annual Meeting Report — Page 5

NOTES FROM MUSIC-ON-A STRING

By Beatrice Hole

Today I write this Newsletter in a sad frame of mind and the uncertainty of the future of our country. Several weeks have passed since September 11 and I still wake up in the morning hoping it is all a bad dream. A senseless act of terrorism is leaving no one untouched, even here in the heartland of America.

It feels good to play the Psalmodikon and make music. **“Music washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life”.**

The 5th annual meeting of the Psalmodikons was a joyful event. I could tell that everyone who was there had been practicing all year. The songs from other years had become easy to play and we quickly caught on to the new songs. We are making progress and enjoying it!

If any of you that were unable to attend, but would like to have more information from our meeting, please get in touch with me.

We all enjoyed seeing all the Psalmodikons, bows and cases that Bud Albrecht had been making this past year. He surprised all of us by giving us our very own fold-away music stand that he had made. We thank Bud for these! Bud recently met some very friendly horses that were willing to share part of their tails with him so that he could make several Psalmodikon bows. Thus he named each bow using

the name of the horse that made the donation!

I also want to thank everyone for coming and those who brought Scandinavian treats; to Don and Ko-reen Gerdin-Paulson; Larry & Deann Gjenwick and Shirley Sorenson for all the special help they gave me. I could not have done it without them. Tusen Takk!

Nok for I dag! Happy Holidays to everyone. In the meantime, Keep practicing!

Hilsen, Beatrice Hole



PSALMODIKON GOES MODERN!

I recently “updated” my favorite Psalmodikon. Verle Austad of Mindoro, Wisconsin sent me an apparatus to amplify the Psalmodikon, much the same as he does for the fiddle. It consists of a small transducer that is attached to the end of my Psalmodikon (with a gummy substance for easy removal) and the cable is then plugged into an amplifier. Works real well, and sounds great. Although I may not use this all the time, it is fun to make a big sound when I am practicing.