



VOL LXIV
March 13, 2024

2024 Event Schedule		
Sun, March 17 Lexington Chamber Chorale		Second Presbyterian Church at 5 pm 460 E. Main Street
Sat, April 27		Gethsemane Lutheran Church

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Marian Soule passed away in her sleep on February 1, 2024 at age 95. Her daughter Randi sent me the obituary which she wrote a little later and I will include it below. Marian was one of our charter members, I believe, and remained active as long as possible, helping to set up the meetings, and for years accompanying the participants in the Santa Lucia programs on the organ, very enthusiastic to the end. Not long after we lost Marian, her daughter, Randi, let me know that Marian's son, John (her brother) had also passed away at Magnolia Springs on March 6 of a lung condition at almost 68. John, too, loved coming to the meetings, and often helped set up tables. He was a quiet soul, and lived in a house not far from his parents, taking great pride in having his own home. It is hard to imagine their not being part of our organization after so many years, and we will miss them. Rest in peace, Marian and John. Randi wrote:

Marian Emilie (Torve) Soule died in her sleep in the early morning on February 1, 2024, in Lexington, Kentucky. She was born May 13, 1928, to Norwegian immigrants Olaf Olsen Torve and Bergliot Bjerke Torve in Everett, WA. As a young girl, Marian studied Piano and was encouraged by her church

Scandinavian Heritage Society P.2

to learn to play the Organ (so that she could play for the weekly services). Marian sought out a private teacher and began her studies. She played Piano and Organ for most of the rest of her life.

Marian married Donald Marion Soule in 1950 after they met at the University of Washington, Seattle. Don had invited Marian to a dance, but he did not show up to take her to the dance. As it turned out, he was sick and had no way to let her know. Later Marian would say, "I think he chose me because I was short." (Don was 5'6" and she was 5'2".)

After their Graduations from UW, Don and Marian moved to Madison, Wisconsin, Eureka, California, and Champagne, Illinois where they had their son John, and finally in 1959 they moved to Lexington, KY where they later had their daughter Randi. [in old Norse, "God-lovable"]

Marian was the Organist for Southern Hills United Methodist Church in Lexington for 37 years where she accompanied the choir and played numerous weddings.

Marian was a member of the American Guild of Organists, Lexington chapter, PEO chapter J, the Scandinavian Heritage Society, the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) and Kentucky Alliance for the Mentally Ill (KAMI).

She was an accompanist for the Lexington Talent Education Association and often helped at the registration table for their Suzuki violin workshops. Marian helped the CKYO with their fundraising for many years as the "cheese lady" selling the delicious cheese products from Old Tavern Cheese Company in Wisconsin.

She loved buying Pastries from the Greek Orthodox Church every year and sharing them with friends and neighbors. She also bought and shared the Schermer Chocolate-Covered pecans from the Southern Hills Church fundraiser.

Marian often attended weekly Day Treatment sessions at Eastern State

Hospital playing the piano for the attendees and leading sing-a-longs. She would often bring cookies and puzzle books to share with them.

Marian was preceded in death by her younger brother, Theodore Olaf Torve, in 2014, and her husband Donald, in 2017. She is survived by her daughter Randi Soule of Raymond, WA, and many Norwegian relatives.

Marian's body was donated to the University of Kentucky Willed body Program as was her husband's before her. She did not wish to have any services. Marian would suggest that if anyone were to donate in her name it should be to NAMI or Southern Hills United Methodist church. She and Donald were huge fans of the Chamber Music Society of Central KY and all classical music in Lexington, the Central Kentucky Youth Orchestra, McConnell Springs, KET and just about any deserving educational or humanitarian organization in the greater Lexington area.

Our next meeting will take place on Saturday, April 27 at 6 pm. While we will conduct a little business that will be brief. We would like to celebrate Denmark at this meeting, so if you would like to bring a Danish dish for dinner that would be especially festive but all contributions are welcome!

I saw on Google today that an ongoing dig in Kalmar which in southwest Sweden on the coast has turned up a large number of ancient treasures, including a ring from centuries ago that depicts Jesus's face. The 2 digs which are sponsored by the National Historical Museums agency are studying the earlier medieval city (largely destroyed in the 17th c.) which still has buildings, part of a city wall, and many interesting objects used in everyday living. Perhaps you heard about this on CBS news!

Archaeology offers us a window into how people lived in the past, and is a source of endless questions and some answers, now that AI can be used even to read burned scrolls from near Pompeii that can never be unrolled!

Kristan Lenning forwarded notes from the Writer's Almanac from today (3/13/24) on Henrik Ibsen whose play Ghosts opened in 1881 on this date. I strongly encourage you to take a look at this mention in thewritersalmanac@substack.com (produced by Garrison Keillor).

On Sunday, March 17 at 5 pm at Second Presbyterian church, the Lexington Chamber Chorale will present Miniature Masterpieces II. American composer Morten Lauridsen's light -filled requiem Lux Aeterna opens the program featuring the talents of the Central Kentucky Youth Orchestra. The chorale continues with English composer Ralph Vaughn Williams' beautiful Serenade to Music, featuring the solo voices of the Chorale and accompanist Caleb Ritchie. General Admission is \$25, with college students at \$10 and K-12 students free. Second Presbyterian church is 460 East Main Street (opposite the former Herald Leader Building). This Gothic church, by the way, has stained glass windows to rival, in a smaller way, anything you can see in Europe!

Vi ses snart!



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