

During the break we are honoring Inge Kistler and celebrating her 50 years of singing with the North Shore Choral Society. Welcome to Eva Parker, Inge's daughter, who is sitting with her mother, as well as Julia Davids, Anthony Green, Tom Miller, and others who came to this rehearsal solely to honor Inge. Since joining NSCS in 1969, Inge has sung under 6 directors and has given very generously and successfully of her time and talents to the Choral Society. She was General Manager for 11 years, President for 4 years, Vice President of Operations, of Fundraising, and of Public Relations for a total of 7 years, Grant Writer for 2 years, and she served on many committees, one of which was the selection committee that hired Donald Chen as Music Director in 1984. During some of these busy years of singing and service to NSCS, she was raising her children and working as a manager of public housing for the elderly in Evanston. In 1994, Inge translated and published *Enchanted Remembrances*, the memoir of her great, great aunt whose exciting life included piano studies with Johannes Brahms and Clara Schumann. In 1995 she wrote "A History of the North Shore Choral Society from 1936 to 1995."

We all have led, and are leading, interesting lives outside our devotion to music. Inge's was especially significant, given the limitations for women in the 1950s. I'd heard that Inge had worked with computers in her pre-choral-society days. Her daughter Lynn Kistler filled in the story with the following: "She first got a master's in English Literature at Columbia. Then, she was pursuing a master's degree in Aeronautics at Johns Hopkins ... when she met Dad. Her bachelor's degree was in math, so she did the calculations (like the women in *Hidden Figures*) both at Hopkins and then later at Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland, where my Dad was stationed when he was in the Army. She has one first-author report *An Application of Nonlinear Theory to the Yawing Motion of Mortar Shells* and she is acknowledged in a few other publications, in one case for carrying out the experimental work, and in another for performing the calculations."

When asked a few years back, Inge named David Fanshaw's *African Sanctus* as NSCS's "most spectacular performance" which she performed at the Unitarian Church of Evanston -- and at Carnegie Hall!

Congratulations, Inge! And thank you!



IN E E

50 years
Golden
of Singing
With The
North Shore
Choral Society

















Participation in the North Shore Madrigal Singers

But I also want to say that Inge's singing has not been limited to the North Shore Choral Society and Unitarian Church choir.

In 1973, some members of the Choral Society decided that they wanted to keep their voices in shape over the summer. What better way than to sing *a cappella* every week? And so they started singing madrigals in each other's homes, practicing their English, Italian, French, and German pronunciation, not to mention their sight-reading skills! Inge is a charter member of the group.

For many years, the group met weekly during the summer, and also occasionally during the other seasons. (For example, every year Anthony Green would host an *a cappella* Christmas caroling party to serenade his neighbors.)

The group adopted the name "The North Shore Madrigal Singers" and performed publicly, in costume, at places like Plaza del Lago, Oz Park, the Newberry Library, Chicago Botanic Garden, the Evanston Woman's Club, various area libraries, and even the Bristol Renaissance Fair. I brought a photograph of the group in costume from 1994, in case you're interested.

Although they no longer perform in public, for the last eight years The North Shore Madrigal Singers has sung every Friday night during June, July, and August at the Winnetka Presbyterian Church. And Inge has been a faithful attendee, giving us starting pitches with her recorder and helping us improve our German pronunciation.

So I also want to thank Inge for her leadership during the summers, in addition to all the volunteer time she has spent with the NSCS.











