

Message from your President - Kristi Gustafson

Happy 2017! New Sweden begins the new year with renewed energy after ending 2016 with two very successful events - Scan Fair and our Lucia Fest. New Sweden volunteers operated our own booth at Scan Fair as well as participated with the League of Swedish Societies in its fund raising booth. It was fun not only getting to know our member volunteers but also listening to them interact with visitors to our booth, and exchange information about their Swedish heritage.

With some trepidation, we tackled our annual Lucia Fest the following Saturday. The weather had thrown a curve ball with freezing rain that shut the city down a couple of days before. Would anyone attend with dicey weather and the new venue? I must have forgotten the Swedish ability to survive cold, northern weather. Our wonderful member volunteers turned out to make short work of the set-up and a record number of people attended the event. Another record was set by a large group of volunteers who got the church cleaned up in short order.



Special thanks to Maritha Rufus and the Lucia Committee for organizing this event, to Karin Olson, our new Volunteer Coordinator who contacted and organized the volunteers, and to the many volunteers who made these events such a great success.

As the new year begins, the New Sweden Board is at work developing our event calendar for the year. I hope we can continue to add more activities like our craft day that allows our members to get together for fun and doesn't require a lot of volunteer work. If you have ideas for such an activity, please contact me. I know we have members with a wide variety of interests, experiences, and hobbies. While it's nice if they're related to Sweden and our heritage, it's not necessary.

Jimmy Granstrom, our newsletter editor, is interested in articles and information for our newsletter (e-mail him at jimmy.granstrom@gmail.com). Many of our members connect with Sweden regularly and may have experiences, knowledge, or a great family recipe they'd be willing to share.

New Sweden is now on Facebook, thanks to Board Member Maritha Rufus. Join us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/newswedenportland/>.

The Board has set dates for several of our annual events so make sure to mark them on your personal calendars. The next event is our annual Membership Appreciation Day. This "meeting" is for all of our members and is the Board's opportunity to say "THANK YOU" for being a member of our organization. Please come and enjoy a meal of traditional Swedish food hosted by the Board, visit with other members, and enjoy a presentation on Swedish music by Jimmy Granstrom.

Kristi Gustafson
New Sweden President
503-663-2772



Portland Scandinavian Chorus



The Swedish school in Portland

Lucia Fest

New Sweden's Lucia Fest moved to a new location this year. Portland's national historic First Presbyterian Church proved to be the perfect setting for the event. Candles softly lit the interior along with the afternoon light from stained glass windows. The new church is considerably bigger than the previous location, giving people a chance for a little breathing room, but small enough to not lose the intimacy of the event. The program included presentations and performances from Ross Fogelquist, Gunilla Admund, Agneta Massa, Kristina Neiman, Joel Godby, the Scandinavian Chorus, Anna-Karin Lindbergh Rednoske, Jimmy Granstrom and many children (too numerous to mention by name here).

After the event, everybody gathered down in the break area for baked treats and drinks. Many kids, young and old, were delighted by the ring dances around the Christmas tree followed by a visit from Santa Hans Lundin.

This year's event had record attendance, and with the new central location and its beautiful setting, it is likely to grow further in years to come. Thanks to Maritha Rufus and committee members Gunilla Admund, Ross Fogelquist, Kristina Neiman and Jimmy Granstrom. We would also like to thank all the volunteers who spent hours working before and after the event. Thank you very much for your help!



Santa Hans Lundin



Volunteers



Clean-up crew



Scanfair

Wanting to learn how to make rice pudding, members Christie Hoguelsson, Judith Sanders and Kristi Gustafson joined experienced "stirrer" Hans Lundin and other members of the League of Swedish Societies in making rice pudding using 20 lbs of rice and 10 gallons of milk. The League sold the pudding in its booth with help from our members Karin Olson, Douglas Hanson, Ulla-Britt Hanson, Karen Larson-Bloom, Pamela Martin and Katarina Braaten.

Meanwhile, New Sweden had our own booth where we promoted New Sweden, Lucia and sold gift packages of pea soup, Tomten posters, and hand carved birch spoons. Visitors were eager to look at the map of Sweden and point to where they had traveled or where relatives had come from.

Thanks to the team of volunteers who worked in the booth: Gun Marie Rosqvist, Maritha Rufus, Ove & Denise Arvidson, Linda Cox, Harvey Edmark, Gunilla Admund, Harold Naparst, Gerry & Chris Tunstall, Karin Olson, and Kristi Gustafson. The Nordic Northwest booth was supported by Jimmy Granstrom, New Sweden's liaison to the organization.

Overall, Scan Fair was a huge success significantly increasing the attendance both Saturday and Sunday. Again, due to demand, the vendor space was expanded offering even more variety of Scandinavian goods. While many visitors were regular attendees, there were many who were excited to experience the event for the first time.



Craft day

Karin Olsen and Carol Tripp welcomed members and visitors to our first Holiday Craft Day, November 26th. Maritha Rufus and Anna-Karin Lindbergh-Rednoske organized the candle dipping and dippers created taper candles for their holidays. In an adjacent room with direction from Kristi Gustafson, determined members got their exercise while rolling wool to create felted holiday decorations. Those working on their crafts received support and encouragement from other members who came to share holiday spirit, eat cookies and snacks, and sip Maritha's award winning holiday glogg. A great way to start the holidays!





History of an old village, Part 2/3 - The Iron Industry and Museum (By Anna-Karin Lindbergh Rednoske)



Brevens Bruk is a small village in the beautiful Swedish countryside and can be found just 30 miles from Örebro in the Närke province. 121 people lived there in 2007. As mentioned in part 1 from the previous newsletter, Brevens Bruk is a very old village built around the iron industry. During the 18th and the 19th century the iron industry formed a large part of the Brevens Bruk development as a growing village and involved a modernization of the enterprise. A new blast furnace with a roasting furnace was built, including a fine hammer and a smithy for locksmith's work. However, due to the decline in the iron industry in the 20th century, the Brevens Bruk iron factory was closed down in 1933. The foundry however remained in production until 1986.

Many of the forms, molds, and models originally used in the original iron foundry are still preserved today and likely form one of the biggest collections in Sweden. They are viewable in the Brevens Bruk museum, an old granary, built in 1781. As its legacy, the grand building is still a powerful reminder of the history of the village and the surroundings are fully intact with their red and yellow buildings still in good condition. Today Brevens Bruk acts almost like a map of history that shows visitors how an old Swedish industrial village was built, complete with a manor house, church, school, working facilities and production buildings and how well they were integrated together.

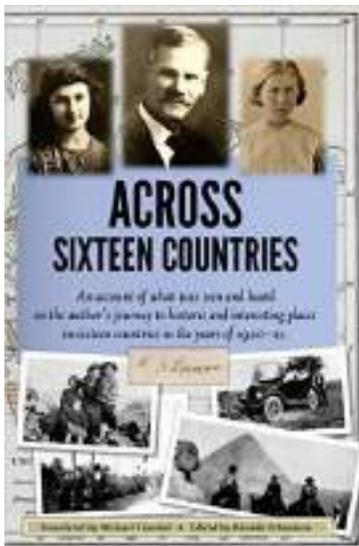
Written by: Anna-Karin (A-K) Lindbergh Rednoske

Sources: Wikipedia.org, Brevens.se

Thank you to Brukskontoret and Brevens Bruk AB for your information



Across Sixteen Countries—New Book from Swedish Roots in Oregon (SRIO)



Travel along with Carl Johan Larson, an Oregon dairy farmer who came to America as a young boy in 1869 at the peak of the Great Migration when more than a million Swedes left their homeland in search of new lives. In 1920, accompanied by his daughter and her friend, Larson set out to see the world. And that they did. By train, auto, ship, donkey, camel, and on foot. From the fiery rim of Mount Vesuvius to the top of the Great Pyramid of Giza; from a silent night in Bethlehem to the land of the Midnight Sun, this is the very personal story - translated to English for the first time - of Swedish emigrants abroad in the early aftermath of World War I.

More information: <http://www.swedishrootsinoregon.org/>

Book available for purchase on www.amazon.com



Ingemar Åberg, Michael Jay



Carola Häggkvist



Celine Dion



Karine Hannah



Pat Cerasaro

From the streets of Stockholm and Montreal to the entertainment capitals of L.A. and NYC - The victories of Ingemar Åberg and Karine Hannah (By Jimmy Granström)

Songwriters Ingemar Åberg (previously based in Stockholm) and Michael Jay (U.S.A.) recently joined forces with Mari Myrholt (Norway) to write and record the song “Victory” for Canadian artist Karine Hannah in Los Angeles. The song was a hit on the Billboard Dance Club songs charts in 2016. Michael has co-written a number of big hits, including Martika’s “Toy Soldiers” which was a U.S. billboard #1 hit for two weeks in the summer of 1989. He also co-wrote “Declaration of Love” for Celine Dion’s 1996 album “Falling Into You”, which is one of the best-selling albums of all time. Two years earlier, Celine invited then 16-year old singer Karine Hannah to perform at her wedding in December 1994. In the early 2000’s, Karine relocated from Montreal to New York City to pursue her dreams as a singer. Within weeks of moving to the Big Apple, she linked up with none other than Jim Steinman, who had previously written hits for MeatLoaf and Bonnie Tyler. At the time of the recordings, Steinman referred to Karine as “The best singer I have worked with since Celine Dion” (he wrote “It’s All Coming Back To Me Now” on Celine’s ‘Falling Into You” album).

Around the time of Karine’s Steinman collaboration, Ingemar Åberg worked with Swedish superstar Carola Häggkvist, who rose to fame at the age of 16 when she performed the song “Främling (Stranger)” at the Eurovision Song Contest in 1983. The album “Främling” is still the best-selling album in Sweden, and ended up selling a stunning one million copies over there. This is roughly equivalent to 30 million copies in the United States, i.e. on par with Michael Jackson’s “Thriller”. Åberg and Carola wrote the song “När löven faller ner (When Leaves Are Falling down)”, which was the first song on Carola’s compilation album “Guld, platina & passion” released in 2003. Returning to the present, Karine recently performed in her solo concert “A Million Reasons”, produced and directed by Pat Cerasaro, at Feinstein’s/54 Below in New York City. The song list featured premieres of songs from her American debut album as well as several Steinman songs, e.g. “Total Eclipse of the Heart” (a U.S. Billboard #1 Hit for Bonnie Tyler in 1983) and a bounty of Broadway material. Karine’s concert marks the beginning of an exciting 2017, leading her one step closer to her American debut album (featuring a brand new version of Jay/Åberg’s “Victory”) as well as her Steinman project “Renegade Angel”. From the streets of Stockholm and Montreal to the entertainment capitals of Los Angeles and New York City, the victories of Ingemar Åberg and Karine Hannah clearly show that persistence and dedication can pay off for those who never give up on their dreams.



West Hills Unitarian Church



Smörgåstårta to be served at the event

Member Appreciation Day (Annual Meeting) on March 5 at 3pm

In previous years, New Sweden’s Member Appreciation Day has been called Annual Meeting. However, considering the informal nature of the event, New Sweden’s board decided to change the name to Member Appreciation Day. We will meet at the same location as last year’s event; the Forest Room in the basement area of the West Hills Unitarian Fellowship Church. Walk down to the driveway to the left side of the entrance, which leads to the basement area. Do not enter the main entrance. There is plenty of parking in front of the church.

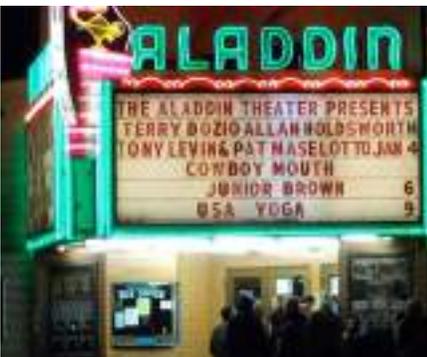
This year our members will be treated to a delicious Swedish Sandwich Cake (smörgåstårta), and an array of other delicacies, plus some sweets to round it off. Yes, maybe even some Princess Cake! So make sure to put this event on your calendar! We are looking forward to seeing you all there! Like last year, Jimmy Granstrom will give a presentation of Swedish music at this year’s event. The rest of the program will be announced soon.



Väsen concert at the Aladdin Theater on April 15

Väsen will be appearing at the Aladdin Theater, 3017 S.E. Milwaukie Ave., Portland, OR on Sat., April 15. Tickets are \$25 and are available at www.aladdin-theater.com, ticketfly.com, 877-435-9849 or at the box office.

Three musicians with a singular sound, a playful yet accomplished interplay that seems to defy the laws of physics, an intensity with a great sense of humor, and modernity rooted in tradition. Väsen, a Swedish acoustic trio, now in its 27th year of touring together. The parts: a five-string viola of sophisticated symphonic taste, an adventurous 12-string guitar, and a nyckelharpa (a “keyed fiddle”) deeply rooted in the traditions of Swedish folk music. All three are instrumental virtuosos in their own right, and together they form a unique supernatural being. To experience Väsen is to witness ensemble playing at its finest.





Valborgsmässoafton

Valborgsmässoafton (Walpurgis Night) is celebrated on April 30th every year. We will return to the same location as last year's event, the beautiful residence of Connie and Morgan Pope. Nestled deeply in rural Hillsboro, the location provided wonderful views of the local area as well as the big mountains of OR and WA in the distance. Although event details have not been finalized at the time of this publication, we hope to see many of you again this year. More information will be provided via e-mail as we get closer to the event.



Sweden & America publication for New Sweden members

The New Sweden Board voted to include the quarterly publication, *Sweden & America*, as a membership benefit for those members who pay their annual dues by February 15th. The magazine is a joint effort of the Swedish American Center and the Swedish Council of America. Please contact Membership Chair GunMarie Rosqvist, 503-466-2119, if you have had a change of address, email, or phone numbers.



Yard Sale Reminder

Now is the time to begin setting aside those unwanted "treasures" for the May 13 yard sale. Make arrangements with Ross Fogelquist, 503-244-3697, to drop off your items.

2017 Events Calendar summary

February 9-26th: Portland International Film Festival.

March 5th: Sunday at 3pm, New Sweden Member Appreciation Day, at West Hills Unitarian Fellowship Church, at 8470 S. W Oleson Rd, Portland, OR 97223

April 30th: Sunday at 7pm, Walpurgis Celebration at the home of Connie and Morgan Pope.

May 13th: Annual Antique and Garage sale at Fogelbo.

June 10th: Saturday 11am-6pm, Scandinavian Midsummer Festival at Oaks Park.

August 12th (tentative): Saturday, annual Kräftskiva Crayfish Party, reservations required.

August 15-20th: Trollbacken, Swedish Language and Culture Camp for children ages 7-13

More events TBD

New Sweden Cultural Heritage Society
2845 NW Circle A Drive
Portland, OR 97229



2017 Membership Renewals and New Memberships!

Memberships are renewed each year and run from January through December. Please use this form to re-new now and save the cost of mailing a separate membership renewal request! You may also renew for multiple years by multiplying the annual dues amount by the number of years desired and indicating your intention on the form.

Thanks for supporting New Sweden with your dues!

Membership Renewal or New Member Form

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Email: _____

Single \$20.00 Family \$35.00 Patron \$50

Scholarship Fund donation (\$_____) _____

Make checks payable to "New Sweden" and send to

Membership, Attn: GunMarie Rosqvist, 2845 NW Circle A Drive, Portland, OR 97229 Membership ques-
tions, please call: (503) 466-2119, or at www.NewSweden.org