Message from Your President, Kristi Johnson-James

The seeds of change are upon our little family. In May, Denver and I were blessed with another precious grandson, Jackson Denver, who joined Anthony James. We all immediately fell in deep, deep love once again. When Anthony grabbed Denver’s arm and declared, “That my Papa!” our decision to move back to Virginia to be with them was made. So, it is with great happiness and sorrow that we have begun the task of moving back to Virginia.

Our New Sweden family has been very supportive, helping us pack the house, fill the storage unit with sorted boxes, stage the house, and pull off a huge garage sale. We continue to trek back and forth to Virginia until the house sells. Our Swedish relatives are awaiting our visit next May. They’re glad to have us closer. That is one advantage of the move!

New Sweden continues to thrive. We welcomed two new energetic Board members in July, Anna-Karin Lindbergh Rednoske, Alaina Johnson, Carol Tripp, and Katarina Braaten. These two dynamos have already proven to be dedicated and resourceful volunteers. Alaina worked tirelessly on the successful Midsummer event, and Anna-Karin has already been instrumental in planning our Lucia Fest. (Perhaps you met her at Valborgsmäsoafton where she led the singing!) Maybe you are interested in joining our board as a member or an officer! Give our Vice President, Ross Fogelquist, a call to discuss your interest (503-244-3697).

Our newsletter continues to receive such positive comments, and we have expanded our reach with articles in Nordstjerman and quarterly emailed articles on our culture and heritage. Leif has truly made this journal a “must read.” Be sure to check out www.newsweden.org for additional articles of interest.

Finally, have you called or e-mailed Vicki Cole to make your reservations for our annual Kräftskiva? Email her at them0therthing@aol.com (the “0” in “m0ther” is the number zero). It’s a potluck with Skandia Lodge, so break out your best Swedish dish and join your friends August 13th at 7:30 pm. Fogelbo is magical for this party. I leave you with this thought, can you imagine packing up Fogelbo for a move?! That would be a new Sweden “all hands on deck” experience of a lifetime!
Our so-so 2011 summer...

Summer is the time we are looking forward to during the entire year with time at the beach with the entire family or friends, or spending time at our favorite fishing hole.

Something happening to Oregon in that the summer never arrived. We have had the second-wettest and coldest spring in 117 years, followed by a summer that has brought just seven days - yes, seven days- of temperatures to reach or exceed 80 degrees, “that is the normal”.

Something is changing. The changes seems to indicate that we now have winter, spring and autumn as the new seasons. Summer is gone on vacation!

Men want their own summerhouse...

A little red house by the water, where you can fly the Swedish colors, the sentimental dream of all Swedes?

The main reason for acquiring a vacation home to seek rest and relaxation. In second place, it is about to get close to nature. Only 2 percent of those surveyed say they want something to "fix and renovate with ".

The dream of total relaxation and long walks is one thing, reality another. No less than 27 percent think it will be time to take up hammers, saws and brush when the family arrives at the cottage on summer vacation.

The survey was conducted earlier this year and about 1,000 people answered the questions. The answers reveal clearly that it is precisely those who have second homes who also dream of relaxation. Those who become home owners find out that the priorities become the opposite.

Source: Fastighetsbyrån (The Property office, real estate brokers. A wholly owned subsidiary of Swedbank)

Last call for Katarinahissen - A Stockholm icon?

Katarinahissen (the Katarina Elevator), the passenger elevator in Stockholm that connects the lock area of Slussen to the heights of Södermalm, was constructed in 1881. But has she carried her last passenger at this point in time?. Maybe, says Mr. Jerat of Folksam. Even since 1883, she has carried thousands of people the 38 meters (124 feet) up to the bridge over to Stadsgården and Mosebacke torg. The view from the elevator is stunning, as anyone knows who has ever taken the ride. “The elevator is very old and in a bad shape; “When we fix one part, another part breaks.”

In order to save the elevator an extensive renovation is needed, but to repair it is no longer an alternative. Kone, the elevator contractor that takes care of the technical part of the elevator, says it is impossible due to its old age. “Its lifetime is up, it’s as simple as that,” Jerat says. Now all await the result of Folksam’s investigation to find out if there’s a future for Katarina.
New Sweden participated in the 83rd Annual Scandinavian Midsummer Festival, Saturday, June 25, 2011 at Oak Amusement Park in Sellwood.

Swedes have a long tradition of celebrating the Summer Solstice with raising of the Midsommarstång (May pole). No Swedish Summer celebration is complete without the Midsommarstång and the dance and music. Here in Portland that tradition has been celebrated for 83 contiguous years at the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival.

Midsummer in Scandinavia's northern climate is the biggest coming out celebration of the year and everyone is invited. At Portland's Scandinavian Midsummer Festival, it is a celebration of fertile fields, warmer and longer days with games, dancing, food, Scandinavian crafts, and of course the raising of the Maypole.

However, Scandinavian roots are not required to celebrate this summer solstice festival. As all people of Nordic descent know, it's always a fun, family friendly and important day with century old traditions.

Andy & Margot Toth are long-time members of Harmoni Lodge and Swedish Society Linnea, having first become members of the Order of Runeberg in the 1970s. They are active in the Midsummer Festival, ScanFair, numerous Swedish brunches and pancake breakfasts, and the Swedish Crawfish Party (Kraftskafta) in August. Margot is a Swedish immigrant from Hälsingland Sweden. She met Andrew when he was a refugee from Hungary. He had participated in the 1956 revolution.

Scandinavians of the Year 2011
Andy & Margot Toth
Sailor’s Beef (Sjömansbiff)

A Swedish classic. Meat, sauce and potatoes in the same casserole make this an ideal meal for late fall/winter/early spring when it’s too cold to sit outside.

Sjömansbiff has become a Swedish classic.

This recipe yields 4 portions.

1 lb boneless beef, ½” thick slices
3 onions
2 tbsp butter, margarine or oil
12 potatoes
2 teaspoons salt
¼ teaspoon pepper
8 oz. dark beer or bouillon
parsley

Instruction:
Slice the meat into smaller pieces, if necessary.
Peel and slice the onion. Sauté in one-third of the margarine over medium heat in a frying pan until it has a good color. Remove and set aside.
Brown meat in rest of the margarine.
Remove from the pan. Pour off the fat and stir a little hot water into the frying pan to loosen the juice from the meat in the pan. Save.
Peel and slice potatoes.
Place potatoes, onions and meat in a baking dish or casserole in alternating layers. Bottom and top layers should be potatoes.
Season each layer with salt and pepper.
Pour juice from the meat as well as the beer or bouillon over the layers. Cover and let simmer over low heat for 45 minutes or in 400 °F oven.
Sprinkle with chopped parsley before serving.
Serve together with a green salad and pickled cucumbers or red beets.
NEW SWEDEN & SKANDIA LODGE

Invites members and their guests to

BENGTS 2011 KRÄFTSKIVA

In the garden at Fogelbo
8740 SW Oleson Road – Portland, Oregon
Saturday, August 13, 2011
Dinner 7:30 pm to Midnight

Come join us for a fun, tradition-filled Swedish crayfish party with delicious food, singing, dancing and music for all generations.

Please bring your own beverages and one (per family or party) of the following dishes:

(serving size: 8-10 people)
Jansson’s Temptation, Swedish Salads, Prins Korv - Sausage, European Cheeses and Knäckebröd, Meatballs, Sill - Marinated Herring, Swedish Desserts, Fresh Berries.

Coffee and Lemonade will be provided.

Bus #45 stops at Fogelbo.

Make your reservations early as seating is limited to 120 maximum

Ticket Prices

$20 per person for New Sweden and Skandia Lodge members

$25 per person for member guests

Last day for reservations (if tickets are still available) is August 6. Payment must accompany reservation request. For more information and questions about reservations call:

Vicki Cole, 503-255-6697, or email them0therthing@aol.com (0 in Other = number 0)
Swedish Language and Culture Camp
For children ages 7 - 13

Five days of fun and activities at Menucha Retreat, Corbett, Oregon

- Arts and Crafts
- Sports
- Music singing and dancing
- Swedish food
- Orienteering
- Language
- Campfires and story time
- Swimming

More information at: www.trollbacken.org, or email: director@trollbacken.org

New Sweden new board members

This is a message from your president. I am so pleased with the interest in our beloved New Sweden. The new Board members will instill new life into our group as Denver and I begin this new journey with our family. I am always amazed at the vibrancy of our group. We are truly a family.

We welcomed two new energetic Board members in July, Anna-Karin Lindbergh Rednoske, Alaina Johnson, Carol Tripp and Katarina Braaten.

Walpurgis and Vappu Night in Portland, OR

“Sköna Maj välkommen…” choral singing at the Swedish and Finnish organizations celebrating the arrival of “sköna Maj” (wonderful May) which we so desperately need after the coldest and wettest winter and spring in recorded history. We had a very nice evening with much choral singing by members of the Scandinavian Men and Woman's Choir, with later help by the audience. This is the time when every Swede and Finn step forward and makes their voice heard by singing their heart out...wonderful!

Of course “Varm Korr” (Hot Dog), the traditional serving at Walpurgis, was served to all and was much appreciated.

Then Kristi Johnson-James and Seppo Saarinen informed the audience about the history of Swedish Valborgsmässoafton and Finnish Vappu Celebration.

Many thanks to the Carter family for hosting this wonderful event!
New Sweden Event Calendar
Updated April 2011

AUGUST

Saturday, August 13: Kräftskiva, our Annual Crayfish Party at Fogelbo. Reservations required. See article, page 7.

August 15-20, Trollbacken, Swedish Language and Culture Camp for children ages 7-13 takes place at Menucha Retreat, Corbett Oregon (about 20 miles from Portland). See article, page 8. Registration due May 20, 2011. For a brochure with an application form email director@trollbacken.org, or visit the website at www.trollbacken.org.

OCTOBER

Saturday, October 29: ScanFeast Auction and Dinner in support of the Scandinavian Heritage Foundation. Registration required. For more information, go to the Scandinavian Heritage Foundation website at http://www.scanheritage.org/c-49-scanfeast.aspx

DECEMBER

Saturday/Sunday, December 3/4: ScanFair at Portland State University. A festive celebration of Scandinavian Culture featuring ethnic crafts, foods, music and dance. For more information, go to http://www.scanheritage.org/c-50-scanfair.aspx

Saturday, December 10: Lucia Fest. A beautiful musical program introducing Oregon’s 2011 Lucia and her court. The program is followed by Swedish baked treats coffee and glögg, ring dances around the Christmas Tree and a visit by the Tomten! St. Paul Lutheran Church, 3880 SE Brooklyn St., at 4:00 p.m.

FOR ADDITIONAL EVENTS LISTINGS:
The Scandinavian Heritage Foundation (SHF) maintains an extensive listing of events throughout the Portland Metropolitan area on their website at http://www.scanheritage.org/c-57-upcoming-events.aspx

To receive a weekly email from SHF listing Scandinavian related events simply send an email to shf@mindspring.com and ask to be added to their mailing list for Weekly Events.

Swedish Roots In Oregon (SRIO) maintain a list of events on their website at http://www.swedishrootsinoregon.org
Are Your Friends Members of New Sweden too?

You already know the fun we have celebrating our Swedish and Swedish-American traditions and culture. Our mission is not only to honor end enjoy our unique culture, but also to encourage and support others in our communities to learn about and be proud of their heritage. That includes sharing our traditions and history with future generations, our children and grandchildren. If you know of others who would enjoy membership in New Sweden, please pass this newsletter along to them and encourage them to join too!

Tack så mycket. Your New Sweden Board.

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: Denver James, 10765 SW Cottonwood St., Tualatin, OR 97062

Membership questions, please call: (503) 454-0135, or at www.NewSweden.org