

# New Sweden Cultural Heritage Society

# Newsletter

February 2018

Editor Jimmy Granström

Volume 121

## **Message from your President - Kristi Gustafson**

Happy 2018! How time flies! A new year begins, membership dues are due, and we continue to look for new opportunities to enjoy our Swedishness. Make sure you write the upcoming events on your calendar.

I was proud of our New Sweden board who voted to host the reception for the Raoul Wallenberg exhibit at Nordia House (see page 10). The exhibit is on until March 31 and another event may be announced within the next couple of weeks. Watch your emails and the website for more information.



Portland's Midsummer Festival, begun by Swedish groups in 1928, will be 90 years old. The Swedish League and Nordic Northwest are working to make this year a special celebration to include having the Viking ship decked out in Swedish colors and filled with Swedes for the Portland Starlight Parade and the Astoria Regatta. Prompted by the 90th Anniversary, Scandinavian of the Year Dave Alford diligently worked to get the Portland Midsummer Festival officially recognized as an "Oregon Heritage Tradition", joining less than twenty other festivals and events to be recognized as such.

Our Membership Appreciation meeting has been rescheduled to March 18th. We will be serving traditional Swedish ugnspannkaka (oven pancake). Portlander Sue Grandjean is president of the Columbia River Orienteering Club and will speak about this activity which began in Sweden in the nineteenth century. It is a "life sport" and caters to people of all ages. Sue will tell us about her experience traveling to Arvika, Sweden, last year to compete with 14,000 people in the O-ringen Festival. An RSVP to me would be helpful but not necessary.

We are working to continue to improve communications as hopefully you've noticed by an increase in informational emails. If you haven't been receiving emails (and have an email account), please contact Membership Chair Charles Neiman, [ckneiman@gmail.com](mailto:ckneiman@gmail.com), to make sure we have your correct information. If you don't have email capability, please contact me so I can create a list to ensure you are notified when events develop that don't make the newsletter.

Kristi Gustafson  
President  
503-663-2772  
[kristigus@aol.com](mailto:kristigus@aol.com)

## *Big Wine....on a smaller scale (by Leif Rosqvist)*

Oregon is the number four producer of wine in the United States after California, Washington and New York, but still demonstrates a more advanced diversity that is absolute magic. Although we have over 700 wineries in Oregon, each harvesting over 60 tons of grapes per year, and producing over 3 million cases of wine, we also have a vast number of small and private winemakers, each producing about 100 cases per year of excellent wine for private consumption.



Grapes

In 2016 the top five varieties produced in Oregon were: Pinot Noir 17,744 acres, Pinot Gris 3,705 acres, Chardonnay 1,482 acres, Riesling 713 acres and Cabernet Sauvignon 626 acres.

Wine Spectator is a magazine that focuses on wine and wine culture. They have just published their selection of “the Wine of the Year” which is DUCKHORN 2014 Merlot from Napa Valley.....but at \$98 per bottle! There are not many of us buying wine at \$98 per bottle, even if the wine must be wonderful.

I recently met with one of the small and interesting 100 cases per year winemakers. More than 20 years of experience has made him a very good one as such. He taught me a lot about winemaking. First, of course, you need grapes. He picks up the grapes himself from Yakima Valley grape growers in Washington State. For this harvest season he bought:

1600 lbs. Cabernet Sauvignon

600 lbs. Malbec

900 lbs. Cabernet Franc

600 lbs. Petit Verdot

All grapes were pressed in one and a half day by the winemaker and two helpers.



Grapes



Press of Grapes



Oak barrels

The wine will be mixed into blends at different ratios of Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec, Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc to obtain the desired “blend”.

The pressed wine stays in steel tanks for about three months, then about one year in oak barrels. During that process the blending of the wine to desired type takes place about 6 month prior to bottling.



The time from crushing grapes to bottling is about 15 months. Three months in stainless steel tanks for malolactic fermentation, 12 months in oak barrels for aging. After bottling up to 12 years in bottles for aging. The rating the wine produced should reach is the 90 point level.

Big wineries have significant facilities to store their wine in, while the small wine producers use anything and everything they get their hands on, including the crawlspace under their houses.



Big wineries storage



Small wine producer storage



Even a wine snob will verify the quality of this wine.

Lucky me, I, walked into this small wine operation and met some very nice and professional wine making people. Grapes from Washington state, wine made in Oregon, what a good mix!

To them we toast:

Unto a spot before ne'er told,  
The Vinland of the Sagas old,  
A region, henceforth of renown  
The Paradise of Leif the bold;  
Unto a fair and fruitful land  
Where, though unplanted by man's hand,  
The purple grape filled all the wood,  
And, though unsown, from green to gold \*



Winemaker Roger Wallberg and one of his helpers

\* First verse of the poem "Songs of New Sweden" by Artur Peterson, 1913



## Craft Day on November 19

For the second year in a row the New Sweden Craft Day took place at the West Hills Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, on November 19th, and was a great success. This year several children joined along with the adults to learn to dip candles, felt wool and try weaving paper hearts (the hearts proved more challenging than anticipated). The crafting lessons were led by Kristi Gustafson, Pam Martin, Anna-Karin Lindbergh-Rednoske and Maritha Rufus. Treats, cookies, coffee and glögg were enjoyed by crafters and spectators.





### **Lucia Aberdeen Stuart with her sisters and grandmother Christie Hoguelsson**

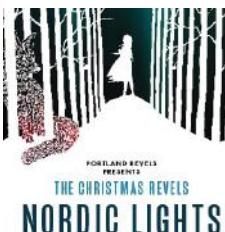
At Scan Fair 2017, the Stuart sisters participated in Scandinavian folk dances with the Vasa Youth Group. The group has dancers from 4-17 years of age and as part of their Swedish culture, celebrate Lucia - the Symbol of Light and Hope during the winter darkness. Every year one girl is selected as the Lucia from the group and this year it was Aberdeen Stuart, granddaughter of our member Christie Hoguelsson. In her speech, Aberdeen said she has been dancing with this group for eleven years. Her sisters, Meri and Annie also dance their hearts out and the girls feel lucky to participate in such a rich cultural celebration.



### **Scanfair, December 2-3**

The 33rd Annual Scanfair at Portland Memorial Coliseum was another great success. The New Sweden booth was very well attended on both days. We thank all New Sweden's volunteers!

The program included performances by New Sweden members Catarina New, Gunilla Admund and Agneta Massa, as well as Leikarringen, Portland Revels, the Scandinavian Chorus and a number of other acts, including contestants in the pickled herring and meatball eating contests!



### **The Christmas Revels on December 16**

A number of New Sweden members got together on December 16 to see the Christmas Revels production "Nordic Lights", a mythical journey into music, dance and traditions of Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland and Iceland.



### **Lucia fest**

This was the second year celebrating Lucia in Portland's First Presbyterian Church. The program included great performances by Douglas Webster, Joel Godby, Agneta Massa, Gunilla Admund, Catarina New, The Scandinavian chorus, the Swedish school and the Oregon Lucia court.



The treats and glögg tasted really well afterwards, and everybody had a great time dancing (or watching others dance) around the tree. Santa showed up after the dancing around the tree and handed out candy bags to the kids. Many thanks to all the performers, volunteers and organizers for being part of the event!



## **"Julen i Portland" - A Christmas song for the Portland Swedish community**

"Julen i Portland" is a Christmas song written for the Portland Swedish community, with lyrics by Jimmy Granström who also co-wrote the music with his former UC Santa Barbara colleague David Prine. It was performed by Gunilla Admud and Agneta Massa at Scanfair and Lucia. There is an excerpt of the Swedish lyrics and an English adaptation below.

När julklockor klämtar, från en svunnen tid

Hear Christmas bells ringing, from a time long gone

En högtid som väntar, en själ som finner frid

The joy it is bringing, the peace inside lives on

### Refräng

Då är julen här i Portland

### Chorus

That's when Christmas comes to Portland

Vi firar allt vi har

We celebrate the times

Allt vi minns från unga dar

We recall from younger days

Trots att vi gav oss av

All that we left behind

Då är julen här i Portland

That's when Christmas comes to Portland

Vi känner ett stillsamt rus

Our spirits are burning bright

Från våra pionjärers torg

From the tree at Pioneer Square

Till Fogelbo klätt i ljus

To Fogelbo dressed in lights



### **The Christmas market at Tivoli in Copenhagen**

The Tivoli Christmas market in Copenhagen is only 35 minutes by train from Malmö. Tivoli opened in 1843 and is the second-oldest operating amusement park in the world. Walt Disney visited Tivoli for inspiration before opening his theme parks. The Christmas market runs until December 31 every year, and is a magical display of lights, sounds, fireworks and the spirit of Christmas!



### **Fogelbo Holiday Tour**

Ross invited New Sweden members who haven't seen Fogelbo decorated for Christmas January 6. About 16 members attended the much appreciated tour. Ross has spent a lifetime filling his lovely Steiner log home with mostly Swedish antiques and a walk through Fogelbo is like a visit to old Sweden. For the holidays and with the help of many elves, Ross decorates Fogelbo to look like a fairytale. Many thanks to Ross for the lovely tour!



"Rock of Ages" in Swedish



ESC 2016 interval act "En underbar jävla jul (Holy Mess)" Edward Af Sillén



## From the Broadway musical “Rock of Ages” to the Christmas movie “Holy Mess” - The creative versatility of Swedish director/writer Edward Af Sillén (By J. Granström)

In February 2013, the Swedish version of the hit musical “Rock of Ages” premiered at Chinateatern in Stockholm. The musical, which had previously been a massive success all over the world as well as adapted into a movie starring Tom Cruise and Catherine Zeta-Jones, includes rock classics such as Journey’s “Don’t Stop Believing”, Foreigner’s “I Want To Know What Love Is”, Bon Jovi’s “Wanted Dead Or Alive” and “The Final Countdown” by the Swedish band Europe. The Stockholm cast featured the likes of Europe member Kee Marcello and comedian Johan Rheborg, whose many hit TV series include “Solsidan (The Sunny Side)”, a hilarious and often thought-provoking show about a number of interesting characters living in the upscale locality Solsidan outside of Stockholm. It is one of the most popular shows on Swedish TV in recent years, and a movie based on the show premiered in December and quickly became the most watched movie on the Swedish big screen in 2017.

The Swedish dialogue for “Rock Of Ages” was translated and revised by Edward Af Sillén, who has risen to become one of the most versatile creative driving forces in Swedish TV, film and theater during the last decade. Edward's played a major role in the Eurovision Song Contest (ESC), the world's largest entertainment event with an estimated 182 million viewers in 2017, in recent years. He's been one of the ESC commentators on Swedish TV seven times and director/screenwriter for the event four times, including the script for the highly acclaimed 2016 competition in Stockholm, which featured Edward's co-written lyrics for the very popular interval act “Love, Love, Peace, Peace”. The song was performed by Petra Mede and Eurovision song contest winner Måns Zelmerlöw, with lyrics and staging referring to moments from previous contestants, such as the Russian grannies from 2012 and the Ukrainian hamster wheel from 2014. Finally, Edward co-wrote the screenplay for "En underbar jävla jul (Holy Mess)" which was the most seen movie in Sweden in 2015. The movie centers on the dysfunctional Christmas celebration of a modern Swedish family, when old and new generations, values and ideas do not quite blend. Edward's already made a significant mark on the Swedish entertainment industry, and seems destined to continue to be a driving force behind some of Sweden's most popular entertainment events and movies in years to come.



## The sweetness of Semla

A semla is a traditional sweet roll made in various forms in Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Norway, Denmark, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Latvia, and Lithuania. It is associated with Lent and especially Shrove Tuesday in most countries. Today, the Swedish-Finnish semla consists of a cardamom-spiced wheat bun, which has its top cut off, and is then filled with a mix of milk and almond paste, topped with whipped cream. The cut-off top serves as a lid and is dusted with powdered sugar. Definitely a very tasty treat!



## Member Appreciation Meeting, March 18

New Sweden welcomes its members to the Annual Member Appreciation Meeting at the West Hills Unitarian Universalist Fellowship on Sunday, March 18 at 3pm. This year we will be served traditional Swedish ugnspannkaka (oven pancake) and hear a presentation from Sue Grandjean, the president of the Portland Orienteering club.

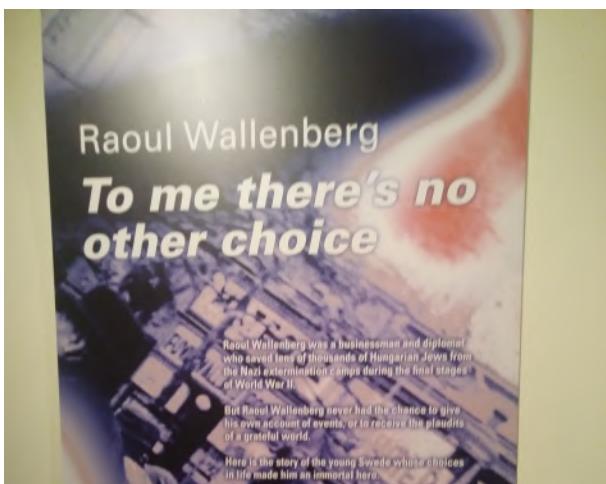
Orienteering began in Sweden in the nineteenth century. It is a "life sport" and caters to people of all ages. Sue will tell us about her experience traveling to Arvika, Sweden, last year to compete with 14,000 people in the O-ringent Festival. An RSVP to Kristi (503-663-2772 or kristigus@aol.com) would be helpful but not necessary.





## Raoul Wallenberg Exhibit at Nordia House

"To me there's no other choice." This was Raoul Wallenberg's response when asked to aid Hungarian Jews during WWII. Raoul Wallenberg was a Swedish diplomat who is attributed to having saved thousands of Jews in Nazi-occupied Hungary by issuing protective passports and buying buildings to establish them as sovereign Swedish territory. Members Barry and Darlene Peterson, and E-Print with support from Nordic Northwest, sponsored the exhibit currently on display at Nordia House, to recognize the humanitarian efforts made by this inspirational man.



### Past event:

Saturday, February 3, was the opening reception for this exhibit. In a sharing of cultures, Nordic Northwest and PSU's Harold Schnitzer Family Program in Judaic Studies collaborated to present a Scandinavian Havdalah ceremony to celebrate the end of Shabbat and the exhibits' opening. As a means to honor the selfless work of Raoul Wallenberg and support the sponsors, New Sweden generously donated the light refreshments.



### **Valborgsmässoafton (Walpurgis night) on April 30**

Valborgsmässoafton (Walpurgis Night) is celebrated on April 30th every year. We will return to the same location as the last two years, the beautiful residence of Connie and Morgan Pope. Nestled deeply in rural Hillsboro, the location provide 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.



### **Annual Garage, Antique and Plant Sale at Fogelbo**

Now is the time to begin setting aside those unwanted "treasures" for the May 11-12 yard sale.

Make arrangements with Ross Fogelquist, 503-244-3697, to drop off your items.

## **2018 Events Calendar summary**

**January 9 - March 31:** Raoul Wallenberg Exhibit, Nordia House, 8800 SW Oleson Rd., Portland.

**March 18, 3pm:** New Sweden's annual Membership Appreciation Meeting, West Hills Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 8470 SW Oleson Rd., Portland. RSVP helpful to 503-663-2772. Sue Grandjean will talk about competing in the O-ringen Festival (orienteering) in Sweden.

**April 30, 7pm:** Walpurgis Celebration. Location: The Pope's residence.

**May 11 & 12:** New Sweden's Annual Garage, Antique and Plant sale. Fogelbo, 8720 SW Oleson Rd.

**June 2:** Portland Star Light parade with the Viking ship float

**June 9:** Portland Midsummer Festival, Oaks Park

**August 4:** New Sweden & Scandia's Kraftskiva Party, tickets purchased in advance, Fogelbo

**August 11:** Astoria Regatta with the Viking ship float

**August, dates TBD:** Swedish Language and Culture Camp, children ages 7-13

**December 1-2:** Scanfair

**December 8:** Lucia Festival, First Presbyterian Church, Portland.

More events TBD.

New Sweden Cultural Heritage Society

PO Box 80141

Portland, OR 97280

2018 Membership Renewals and New Memberships!

Memberships are renewed each year and run from January through December. Please use this form to renew 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: New Sweden Cultural Heritage

Society, PO Box 80141, Portland, OR 97280. Membership questions, please call: (503) 644-0787, or at

[www.NewSweden.org](http://www.NewSweden.org)