

Message from your President - Corina Laws

Dear New Sweden members,

On behalf of the board and myself I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very happy and healthy summer of 2021.

We have a picnic coming up on Saturday, September 11th at Fogelbo and look forward to seeing as many of you as possible for this time-honored event. There will be musicians jamming, games, raffles and just some general fun in this beautiful setting. Water balloon tosses, egg in the spoon race and of course Kubb will be played. Details on how to sign up can be found on page 6 of this newsletter or in your inbox.

We have been fortunate to have produced three Scandinavian Stories on Sunday's this year with three very talented and interesting subject matter experts. This has been a wonderful opportunity for all of us to learn about Scandinavia, the people, and the artistry of the land. If you have a story or idea and would like to share it, please reach out to either myself or Kristi Gustafson.

For those of you who attended Valborg this year at the Ek Farm you know how special this place is and how lucky we were that the Ek's shared it with us. Ek Poultry Breeding farm was started in the early 1900's by August Ek. Yep he's a Swede. I'm going to save more of this story as I am trying to get the Ek's to allow us to put together a Scandinavian Story on Sunday about the farm and the family. I personally want to thank my very dear friends the Ek's Glen, Rose and Pauline (Roger and Joey) for allowing us to hold this event here. If you are in West Linn and need farm fresh eggs this is the place to go.

And last but certainly not least, how do we thank Kristi Gustafson for her time as president of New Sweden. She puts in so much of her time and cares so much, even reaching out to ask members if they need a ride to get a vaccine shot. We are so lucky to still have her as vice president. Thank you!

A thousand thanks

Corina



New Sweden welcomes new members

Martin Hulth, Stefan Nornholm, and Daniel Mattson as well as returning members:

Courtnee and Mark Averskog and Sandra Nelson Miller and Gary Miller

We say “Ha de bra och lycka till!” to Anna Karin Lundquist who moved back to the homeland.

Member Profile: Lindsay Drace

Lindsay, with her husband Chris and their black Lab Kona moved from Laguna Hills, CA. as recently as Thanksgiving 2020 to West Linn, OR.

From her great grandparents forward on her mother's side, all were purebred Swedes who settled in Duluth, Minnesota. When Lindsay's mother grew up, only Swedish was spoken at home. After she moved to California, she met her future husband and Lindsay joined her older brother to complete the family.

Looking for a Swedish connection she found New Sweden via the Internet and among other things is volunteering with the Fogelbo Trolls in Ross' garden. Dave and Ray have taken her under their wings and are teaching her memorable novelties, with Eric never far behind to fill in the gaps. Some of them may be useful to her scientific interest of native plants, the ecosystem and horticulture as she is in pursuit for a certification of such from OSU.

Last Fall a class in Swedish 101 at PCC encouraged her to continue and Swedish 102 is already on the books for Fall '21.

Exploring the North West has added to her regular activities by hiking and camping. Gardening is satisfying her curiosity and she is easily ready to be of assistance when needed in the Scandinavian community.

Lindsay is not to be overlooked: she is the tall and lanky one in the crowd. Say hello should you spot her on any green lawn since she has become a regular and fierce Kubb player.

Event in review: Walpurgis on April 30th (by Anna-Karin Lindbergh-Rednoske)



Got to enjoy hotdogs and mashed potatoes and sweet treats, beautiful music by a folk music band and of course sing-a-longs of traditional Swedish spring songs. So nice to see people again who we hadn't seen for almost a year due to the pandemic. We were lucky with the weather, right when it ended the rain came down for real, during the event it was just a light mist.



Events in review: Scandinavian Stories on Sundays in April and May (by Corina Laws)

New Sweden's April 25th Scandinavian stories presentation was about a charming province in Sweden called Dalsland. We learned from Christian Müller about the canals, bridges, runes, stone carvings, museums, local artistry and so much more. Plus, he let us know where to get the very best sourdough bread! Christian and his family live 5-6 months in the area and spend the remaining time in Germany.



Basket maker - John Peterson on May 16th 6:30 pm

Born in 1895 near Våmhus in the Mora Municipality of Dalarna County, Sweden, Erik John Peterson learned early in life the skilled craft of weaving baskets from wood. This style of basket making is unique to the Våmhus area and still taught in the community today. After coming to the United States in 1914 and Americanizing his name to John Peterson, he settled in St. Helens, Oregon where he found work in the timber industry and ultimately resumed his craft of basket making.

Brandon Sundeen, a teacher and member of the Columbia County Museum Association, learned about John's story while working in the museum where several of his baskets are on display. He researched John's life and interviewed people who had watched John make baskets, and some that still collect these prized pieces today. Brandon also tracked down John's relatives in Sweden who were able to provide additional photos and information.



Scandinavian Stories on Sunday



John Peterson from Dalarna County, Sweden moved to America in 1914. He settled in St. Helens Oregon where he worked in the timber industry. The skilled craft of weaving baskets from wood was learned at an early age in Sweden and he continued the craft here in America gaining major recognition for his basket making.



Event in review: Dala horse painting class (by Rayna Flye)

The *Dalahäst*. Also known as the Dalecarlian horse, or more commonly as the Dala horse, it is an instantly familiar representation of Swedish culture. To see the Dala is to see Sweden. Yet, for all the familiarity, just try asking someone what a *true* Dala horse looks like.

“It’s definitely red.”

“But I’ve seen blue ones and white ones.”

“It absolutely must have flowers.”

“But what about flags or coffee cups? I’ve seen them with those.”

Indeed, there are as many interpretations of the Dala horse as there are *köttbullar* (meatball) recipes. The best part of this is that all the variations simply add breadth and depth to the Swedish cultural experience, and keeps it from being outdated. It was with this intrepid mindset that I went about creating my very own Dala horse in a New Sweden painting class.

Now, while I’m a dedicated crafter/project maven, I have a little, let’s say, difficulty with following rules. Sometimes it turns out great; other times I end up knitting a hat two sizes too large. Luckily that was not the outcome for this project. A large part of that was due to our fantastic instructor Nancy Tingley, a local artist skilled in Scandinavian folk design. Despite being miles apart and on Zoom, she gave us excellent instructions and was careful to give us enough time to practice the various paint stroke techniques. The tech crew also did a wonderful job with audio and capturing the instructor and the art at various angles.

We all had the same template, but I let the power of imagination guide me (also: see above re: rule-following). I wanted to create a horse that represented my family. Bolle (the name of my horse) has red, white, and blue elements for me (the *Amerikanska*), and blue and yellow for my husband (the *Svensk*). The commas and lines in the original template evoked the imagery of boats, so I emphasized the stripes to look more like masts, representing the journey to America (a perhaps more-accurate airplane just didn’t feel right!). I have an unnatural love of all things lingonberry (and a garden full of multiple varieties to prove it), so I knew those had to be included. Then I gave it a little waving flag on the leg. Anyone who knows me knows I fly a US and Swedish flag, so including a flag was also a given.

I kept the traditional elements (saddle, bridle, etc.) while adapting the Dala horse to what Sweden means to me. Paying respect to the old while incorporating the new. It’s part of a long tradition with the Dala horse, and one I had so much fun being a part of. Thanks to all who made this possible.



Rayna’s dalahorse

Official Fogelbo plaque for Forest Trolls

The official plaque thanking the Forest Trolls for the remodeling of New Sweden's storage facility at Fogelbo has been installed. The plaque was installed by New Sweden in recognition of the Forest Trolls Volunteers' outstanding remodeling project. This project included removing and installing a taller attic storage space and additional extension on to the building. This extension housed the League dance floor and our seven canopies. The remodeling project also included an extension of the roof and porch on the front of the building. With the porch included a railing and bench, plus some decorative items. A brass bell was donated by Ross Fogelquist, which will hang on the front of the building. This was year-long project that required a lot of hard work and careful planning. Thank you, thank you, thank you, Forest Trolls, for your dedication and hard work. It was a great addition to our little Scandinavian village in the Fogelbo forest.

New Sweden picnic at Fogelbo on Saturday, September 11



New Sweden invites you to a picnic on Saturday, September 11, from 4:00- 7:00pm, at Fogelbo, 8740 SW Oleson Rd., Portland.

Join with members of the League of Swedish Societies organizations, the Fogelbo Trolls, and Finlandia Foundation, for a summer picnic with live music and games.

Bring your own picnic food, chair or blanket, and New Sweden will provide lemon-aid and water (or bring your choice of beverage).

New Sweden has rented the property so we ask a \$5 admission per person, children under 12 enter free.

Please help us plan by registering by contacting Kristi Gustafson, kristigus@aol.com, 503-807-9808.

Event in review: Nordic Northwest Midsummer on June 12 (by Martin Hulth, Co-chair)



What a day! I co-chaired this year's Oregon Midsummer Festival and all I can say is "Wow." Hosting an event in pandemic is not easy, but I can't believe how smoothly things went and how beautiful it was.

People were eager for community and connecting, but this year's festival was something more special than almost anything I've been a part of. It let Fogelbo be the star. The wonderful folk music of Fossegrimen filled every nook of the campus (thanks to Nordic Northwest's incredible new sound system). And it offered guests the space to feel comfortable and roam while keeping social distance.

We had two sold-out sessions to keep crowds manageable, which meant two midsommarstång raisings, each with dancing and music, with wonderful vendors and food. Everything went smoothly and the guests seemed to truly enjoy themselves. Plus, the rain came 30 min after the last person left! We couldn't have asked for a better day. Thank you to all involved!

Flowers for Midsummer (by Martin Hulth)

This was the flower prep from the day before our Oregon Midsummer Festival on June 12th. These were used to create flower crowns and allow guests to decorate our Midsommarstång the following day. These were all donated and was our biggest assortment yet. It made the event just that much more special!



Kubb tournament at the Portland Midsummer Festival (by Stefan Nornholm)



I competed in a Kubb Tournament at the League of Swedish Societies Portland Midsummer Festival on June 19th. My team didn't win but it was still fun and I got to spend time with some wonderful people. My name got picked in a drawing and I will be receiving my own Kubb set (which is awesome), I got to speak some Swedish & watch people dance around the midsummer pole. We finished the day by enjoying some good food, drink and each others company at Stickmen's Lakeside Smokehouse & Brewery.

Midsummer celebrations in the Portland Community (by Martin Hulth)



The Portland community also celebrates Midsummer in their own ways. Here's some of the food featured at one local Midsummer celebration in Northeast Portland. From left to right: Homemade Princesstårta (Princess Cake) with marzipan, whipped cream, lemon curd, and strawberries; the reliable and delicious Toast Skagen (shrimp caviar toast) on Finn crisp (rye hard bread); succulent steamed Orange-zest Limpa (rye bread). Did you have your own Midsummer celebration as well?

League of Swedish Societies Portland Midsummer on June 19 (Photos: Glenn Ekberg)





The site of the first radio broadcast in Boden in 1921



A family gathered around a radio console in the 30's



Gry Forsell, Mix Megapol, Sweden



Swedish Egil, Sirius XM radio

A century of Swedish radio stations and personalities - From government monopoly to the local and commercial radio from Sweden to the United States today (By J. Granstrom)

Radio has been one of the most important media outlets in Sweden and around the world during the last century. From its birth early in the 20th century, broadcast radio astonished and delighted the public by providing news and entertainment with an immediacy never before thought possible. From about 1920 to 1945, radio developed into the first electronic mass medium, monopolizing “the airwaves” and defining, along with newspapers, magazines and motion pictures, an entire generation of mass culture. The history of radio in Sweden started in 1921 with the first broadcast from Boden. In 1922, Televerket (The Telegraph Agency) began broadcasting radio on a trial basis from Stockholm. On January 1, 1925, AB Radiotjänst (“Radio Service Ltd”) started broadcasting across the country. The premiere broadcast featured news and weather reports, in a similar format as today’s broadcasts. In 1957, Radiotjänst changed its name to Sveriges Radio (Swedish Radio) and gained a monopoly on both radio and TV broadcasts. In 1977, local radio started broadcasts in Sweden. Radio would get closer to people living outside of Stockholm, resulting in 24 locations getting their own local radio station and broadcasting area.

The Swedish Radio monopoly ended in 1993, when the airwaves also opened up for private actors, resulting in new radio channels such as NRJ and Mix Megapol. One of Sweden’s most famous radio personalities is Gry Forsell, who started her career in TV in the early 1990’s. In 2004, Forsell became a radio talk show host for Mix Megapol, where she presented the morning radio show “Äntligen Morgon (Finally Morning)” along with Anders Timell. The morning show won the Swedish Radio Academy’s award for “Morning Show of the Year” in 2005 and again in 2008. Swedes have also left their mark on the American radio scene, including the highly influential and widely acclaimed host Swedish Egil. He moved from Sweden to the U.S. in the 1970’s, becoming a booking agent for major nightclubs and starting his radio career. In the 80’s, Egil created an overnight buzz on L.A. radio with KROQ-FM, breaking many alternative artists including Nirvana, Red Hot Chili Peppers and UB40. He continued his manic devotion to new music in the 90s as Music Director at MARS-FM, then as the founder of Groove Radio, dedicated to club and DJ culture with artists such as Moby, Fatboy Slim, and The Chemical Brothers. Today, you can also catch Egil’s distinctive radio voice nationwide on grooveradio.com, Sirius XM Radio and as a co-host of weekly mix show “Powertools” (Power 106FM Los Angeles).

Returning to the emergence of Swedish commercial radio in the 1990's, a large number of different radio channels have been on the air since then, although some of them only lasted for a shorter time. The wide range of radio channels available today does not only offer highly specialized stations, focusing on everything from ballads to heavy metal, but it also provides more opportunities for new artists to get their songs played on the radio. A few examples of people or stations that are supportive of new artists and songs can be seen on the right. This list provides a cross-section of commercial, local and student radio stations across Sweden. More information about some of these people and stations can be found below.

Lennart Marmelid, kanonfm 98.6 (Kalmar). kanonfm 98.6 is a local station mostly dedicated to music from the 60's and 70's, with over 50% of aired songs recorded by 1979. However, the station is also open to new music. One great champion for new artists at kanonfm 98.6 is Lennart Marmelid, who has been with the station for 16 years.

Krister Olenmo, Radio Haninge, Stockholm. Radio Haninge is a local radio station to the south of Stockholm. Krister Olenmo does not only run the station, but is also a singer/songwriter who has released multiple albums.

Jonas, Radio Nord 98.3 (Stockholm). Radio Nord 98.3 is a student radio station at Täby Enskilda High School in northern Stockholm. Jonas has a particularly good ear for the new music that is being featured on the station.

Lars-Göran Lindbergh, Radio Siljan (Mora). Radio Siljan is a local station in Dalarna that started in 1995. Lars-Göran is one of the hosts at Radio Siljan, and he is also a founder of the Mora Country and Western Club (MCWC) program, which has aired from the same studio since 1982. This makes it the oldest country program on Swedish radio.

Lars-Eric Byhlin, Hallsta-Sura Närradio (Hallstahammar). This local radio station features the programs "I karantän (In Quarantine)" och "Golden age of rock'n roll" hosted by Lars-Eric Byhlin.

Over the last century, Swedish radio has developed from one state-run channel to today's wide range of public service, local, student and commercial stations, offering listeners diverse listening experiences and greater opportunities for independent voices, artists and interests to get heard on the radio in Sweden.

People who are open to (the idea of) considering or playing songs from new artists on their stations:

- Gry Forsell, Mix Megapol
- Maria Enzell, Sveriges Radio P4
- Rita Jernquist, Sveriges Radio P4
- Martin Loogna, Skärgårdsradion
- Lennart Marmelid, kanonfm 98.6
- Krister Olenmo, Radio Haninge
- Jonas, Radio Nord 98.3
- Lars Göran Lindberg, Radio Siljan
- Gary Newman, Galaxy FM
- Jennie Karlberg, Radio pe20
- Lars-Eric Byhlin, Hallsta Sura Närradio
- Felicia Johansson, Radiosvallet



Lennart Marmelid (kanonfm 98.6)
interviewed on TV4 in Sweden



Krister Olenmo, Radio Haninge

RADIO 
NORD 98.3

Student radio in Stockholm



Lars-Göran Lindbergh,
Radio Siljan

New Sweden Cultural Heritage Society
PO Box 80141
Portland, OR 97280

Dala horses by New Sweden members



**Ross
with his
Dala
horse**

Dala horses produced and painted by Erik Goranson, an active member of New Sweden. The authentic Dala horse decorations were painted by a well-known local Scandinavian artist and our local class instructor, Nancy Tingley. Please contact Kristi Gustafson for more information: kristigus@aol.com, 503-807-9808.