

To our members,

Another busy season for the Swedish community is fast approaching and we can all look forward to some festive and interesting events. First of all, a few comments about past activities. Midsummer at Fogelbo and Nordia House was a big success! Over 2,000 people attended this two day event. A great variety of food, vendors and entertainment were provided. The highlight of the festival was the raising of the tall, beautifully decorated midsummer pole. It was a beautiful and mild summer day which enhanced the many festive activities. A special thanks to all our members who participated in operating our New Sweden booth.



By far the construction of the large troll in my woods was the highlight of the year. Many volunteers came to help construct this large troll, which was made out of recyclable lumber. Thomas Danbo, a famous Danish artisan, was here for 4 days to supervise its final construction. He has constructed over 120 of these giant wooden trolls in 17 countries. Since the troll has been constructed, there has been a constant flow of visitors. If you have not seen the troll you must come by and take a peek at ol' fellow who is peering into a little red house in the woods. In addition to the construction of the troll, there was a very well attended viking beer festival with nearly 2,000 people came to enjoy a variety of activities. Some of our members were happy volunteers for this event.

Unfortunately Ross's crayfish [*kräftor*] celebration had to be postponed to Sunday Sept. 24th, which was due to the fact that the crayfish provider for the Portland area went on an unannounced vacation, leaving us with no alternative provider. This event is for our members only and their guests and, despite the rain, it was a delightful event with delicious crayfish. Other recent events included a cooking class led by Jamie Stone, a noted Swedish American pastry chef. Later in the fall we will host a special holiday craft class. More information will be provided in this newsletter and future emails. Email announcements come to you from Louise Karnéus, our newsletter and information editor.

As usual, we will have an extremely busy holiday season. Starting with our 3rd annual Christmas market on Saturday Nov. 25th. 2 weeks later will be ScanFair on Dec. 9-10 at the Convention Center. Christmas activities will conclude with our annual Lucia program Dec. 16th at Moreland Presbyterian Church. We hope that all of our members will be active volunteers for one or more of these events. Expect a phone call from one of our officers requesting help. We look forward to seeing you at one or more of these events.

Sincerely,

Ross Fogelquist, New Sweden Cultural Heritage Society President



Upcoming Events - Holiday Edition!



New Sweden's Christmas Goat Market

When: November 25, 2023, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Where: Norse Hall, 111 NE 11th Ave, Portland, OR 97232

Cost: \$2 for children under 16, \$3 for adults (for New Sweden Members)

New Sweden's biggest event of the year! Join us in celebrating the season by supporting local artisans and makers! Take care of your holiday shopping and get into the holiday spirit (julstämning) with warm Scandinavian food, drinks, winter wonderland Lego villages, and music as you browse through cozy Norse Hall. This event is proudly presented by New Sweden Cultural Heritage Society and will feature many other local Scandinavian organizations serving food and cheer. All are welcome!



Scan Fair at Portland Convention Center

Saturday, December 9, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM & Sunday, December 10, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Oregon Convention Center, 777 NE Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Portland, OR 97232

Cost: \$12.00 for adults (ages 12+), \$8.00 for children ages 6-11 years

New Sweden has long participated in Nordic Northwest's ScanFair and we hope to see you stopping by our booth. ScanFair brings Scandinavia to Portland through traditional food and drink vendors; an entertainment program focused on cultural heritage; games, activities, and crafts; and welcoming local community organizations. See new Sweden members perform at the following times, and head to Nordic Northwest's ScanFair page for the full schedule: <https://www.nordicnorthwest.org/scanfairentertainment>

- ❖ Saturday 12:10 PM - Jimmy Granstrom (contemporary music from Sweden and Oregon)
- ❖ Saturday 3:45 PM - Dan Schlesinger (brass music)
- ❖ Sunday 12:20 PM - Portland Nordic Chorus & Lucia Court



Lucia Fest

Saturday, December 16th, 3:00 PM

Moreland Presbyterian Church, 1814 SE Bybee Blvd, Portland

Scandinavian tradition holds that in Värmland, Sweden, a white clad maiden wearing a crown of burning candles and a red sash brought food to starving villagers on the shores of Lake Vänern. On the morning of December 13, the notes of "Santa Lucia" are heard everywhere in Sweden as the white-robed maiden comes out of the night with her crown of lighted candles to dispel the darkness, bringing light to the Christmas season. While it was originally a Swedish tradition, it has since spread to the other Scandinavian countries.





Secrets, Lies, and Sneaky Spies - Member book out now!

Not for the first time, we have the honor of promoting a book published by one of our community members! *Secrets, Lies, and Sneaky Spies* is a spy thriller set in Sweden and written by New Sweden Cultural Heritage Society member Rayna Flye, who also happens to be board member Jimmy Granström's wife. Rayna has traveled to Sweden many times. It is available as an Ebook on multiple sites including [Amazon](#), [Barnes & Noble](#), and [Kobo](#). See a full synopsis on those sites, and a brief one below:

Newly promoted Agent Katrina Foster is tossed onto a plane and sent halfway around the world on her first assignment. Her directive: uncover who killed the country's top agent. When Katrina links the murder to a decade-old political assassination, a murderous mastermind, and a shadowy organization set on global disruption, she becomes a target. As the mission heats up, so does her attraction to a certain handsome Swedish agent. Then, he reveals a connection to her past that might end up jeopardizing her future.



Recurring Event: Swedish Conversation Group (Samtalsgruppen)

Nearly every Friday at 4:00 PM, Ann and Sid Stuller host a Swedish language conversation group. The group has no homework and should be comfortable for anyone with beginning skills in Swedish and a desire to learn more and get comfortable speaking - one of the most difficult parts of learning any language! Email Ann Stuller (sasmac@comcast.net) or Louise Karnéus (louisekarneus@gmail.com) to inquire about joining.

This year marks the 500 years of the Swedish Monarchy! King Gustaf Basa was the first of the many ruling dynasties to hold the throne. Sitting on the throne currently is King Carl XVI Gustaf and his wife, Queen Silvia of Sweden. This year, he is celebrating 50 years on the Swedish throne and is also the longest reigning monarch in Swedish history. Their daughter, Crown Princess Victoria, is very popular amongst the people and next in line for the throne.

Incidentally, our very own President of New Sweden, Ross Fogelquist, was Knighted by King Carl XVI in 1985 as Knight of the Royal Order of the Polar Star, First Class. This was in recognition of his many contributions to Swedish and Scandinavian



Culture and service throughout the years. In 2001, the King also appointed Ross Fogelquist as the Honorary Vice Council of Sweden here in Oregon. He served in that position until his retirement in 2007. Ross was the last serving Honorary Swedish Diplomat serving in Oregon. The Office of the Swedish Consulate in Oregon opened in 1889. It served people of Swedish descent until 2007, at which time the office relocated to Seattle, Washington. Currently, the office in Seattle serves both Washington and Oregon.

Oregonian to be Honored by Carl XVI Gustav

In an exciting and serendipitous twist, one researcher from Oregon has the exciting honor of receiving the Marcus Wallenberg Prize for 2023 from King Gustav this month in Stockholm! The award, issued by the Marcus Wallenberg Foundation for Promoting Scientific Research in the Forest Industry, will be presented to Dr. Richard W. Haynes, based at Oregon State University. The award was created in 1980 during Carl XVI Gustav's time on the throne and honors groundbreaking research in forestry and sustainability.

Dr. Haynes' work (he shares the prize with colleagues Dr. Darius Adams, Dr. Joseph Buongiorno) is focused on creating predictive economic models to help the forestry industry combine consumer demand with biological, logistical and mathematical forces at work in the forestry industry. The Marcus Wallenberg Foundation says the following of the models perfected in part by Dr. Haynes:

These exceptional models have emerged as indispensable tools for analyzing the multifaceted impact of policies and various factors on forestry and the forest industries at the global, national and regional levels. With the ever-increasing pressures of climate change, which elevate forests' significance as carbon sinks and the burgeoning demands on forest raw materials due to population and income growth worldwide, there has been a growing need for comprehensive analysis.



This year's 2023 Annual Crayfish Party was a successful event. Unfortunately due to weather, it had to be moved into the Great Hall at Nordia House. The hall was festively decorated with Kraftor decor and a great time was had by all. Thanks to our hardworking cooks, Eric Guranson and Martin Hulth, the crayfish was tasty and amazing. There was a great variety of delicious food, more than enough to go around, and spectacular desserts to please the palate. The event chairman, Martin Hulth, even led us in drinking songs. Dan Schlessinger and Deb Kelly provided lively music for the event. Many thanks and appreciation to the volunteers for all their help. Everyone's help and contribution made this Kräfter Event a huge success! We look forward to next year.



Above, left to right: folks gather around tables at the indoor Kräftskiva, donning bibs and hats; this year's delicious kräftor waiting on the buffet table; New Sweden members Maritha Rufus, Anna-Karin Lindbergh-Rednoske, Ross Fogelquist and Martin Hulth lead the singing

Christmas Cookie Baking Class

New Sweden was excited to have Jamie Runckel (picture below in the far left) lead us and our friends in a baking class this October! Jamie is a professional baker who sells at Scandinavian events, Farmer's Markets and provides custom orders. His business, Jamie's Kafferep, is a play on the traditional Swedish coffee party at which seven cookies and cakes are served with coffee by the host.





Oregon Midsummer Festival

Jimmy Granstrom

The Nordic community got together to celebrate a wonderful Midsummer at Nordia House on June 24th. There was a wide variety of food to enjoy, from Swedish pancakes to Nordic sandwiches. This year, the Maypole was raised in front of Nordia House, with the procession starting at Fogelbo. The singing and dancing around the Maypole was led by Gunilla Admund and Catarina New Martin, who later took the stage in front of Fogelbo. Catarina performed with her husband/percussionist Al Martin, delivering a wonderful set from Folk to Classical and Jazz music. The performance ended with some members of the audience joining her on stage to sing Tomas Ledin's famous pop classic "Sommaren är kort (The Summer Is Short)", which has been sung by millions of Swedish school children at graduations since its release in 1982.



A landskap is the closest Swedish equivalent to a State—these are overlapping provincial titles referring to geographic regions. “Län” is a similarly-used word referring to a political or governmental division of the country, and landskap refers to a purely geographic division and is known for a broader cultural identity. Of course, each landskap has distinctive traits and cultural and geographical diversity, yet are often boiled down to stereotypes (just like our American states). In each Newsletter, we’ll explore a new one.

Skåne, sometimes anglicized as Skania, might seem like a strange destination to cover as we edge closer and closer to a chilly winter! It is the southernmost reach of Sweden and is known for coastline rather than icy mountains; indeed, it is home to white sand beaches that might appear more at home on a Mediterranean coastline (seriously!). Our past Landskap Spotlight focused on the Swedish north, and Skåne is drastically different in many ways, geological and social. It is relatively populous, and is home to Malmö, Helsingborg, and Lund (three of Sweden’s top 12 largest cities). Still, it is famous for its natural beauty as well, including some rocky cliffs sporting the highest-elevation lighthouse in all of Sweden (Kullen Lighthouse, kept very busy at the mouth of Öresund) and many natural parks dedicated to preserving the unique and varied coastline that is synonymous with Skåne for most Swedes and in-the-know foreigners.

Malmö is the largest city in Skåne and the third-largest in Sweden. It is just under 30 minutes by train from Copenhagen, a quick ride across Öresundsbro (the bridge between Denmark and Swedish). For this reason, Swedes and Danes living in Malmö are able to easily commute between the two countries. Malmö is an economic hub in its own right, once known for shipbuilding and fishing primarily and now grown into a modern city combining robust production facilities and factories with tech and telecommunication. Lund is nearby Malmö, the home of a famous university and Lund Cathedral (the end point of the famous Sweden road trip depicted in Ingmar Bergmann’s “Wild Strawberries,” or *Smultronstället*). Lund University is ranked 2nd in Sweden and is a top 100 global university, home to robust undergraduate and graduate programs and a beautiful campus, famous in its own right. The library building in particular, with a beautiful ivy-covered gothic facade, is a symbol of Swedish academia.

Skåne was part of Denmark for a long stretch of Swedish history, and the regional dialect and culture have influences tracing back to time under Danish rule which spanned from the 10th century to the 17th. Numerous castles still exist from that time, making Skåne an exceptional destination for a historical journey throughout the kingdoms of Scandinavia. Glimmingehus Castle and Landskrona Citadel trace back to 1499 and the mid 1500s, respectively. Lund Cathedral’s altar dates back to 1398! Even further back, Ale’s Stones are the Swedish equivalent of Stonehenge and may have been erected as long ago as 500 AD.

Even in winter, the days here are longer than those in Stockholm and further North—more time for sightseeing! Around the holidays, Skåne’s many castles are decorated with lights and Christmas markets, the *Kulturen* museum in Lund comes alive with holiday traditions on recreated medieval streets, and the excellent agriculture and fishing in the area makes for a varied and fresh *julbord*. A hot take on Skåne from a real (Northern!) Swede: “all that’s down there is the wind.” You now know that this is far from true, but despite the beaches, rest assured that it won’t feel like Christmas in July.

Landskap Spotlight Continued on next page: photos of Skåne



The famous Lund University library building in early autumn (Photo: Louise Karnéus)



Kullen Lighthouse at the westernmost tip of Skåne, located in Kullaberg Nature Reserve



Sandy beaches on the east coast of Skåne, near Juleboda (photo: Jenna Lea)



Kulturen open-air museum in Lund (photo: Louise Karnéus)



Hansen House and the Friends of Fogelbo Update

Michael Panhorst

In March, the Nordic Northwest Board voted to demolish or deconstruct Hansen House, the pristine little stuga that was built in 1931 by the Danish-American who lived across the back fence from Fogelbo and which was moved to Fogelbo by Ross Fogelquist's father in 1972. Immediately, the Nordic-American community voiced its objection to the unnecessary loss of this important and well-preserved vintage component of the Nordic-American cultural landscape that has evolved around the log cabin built by Henry Steiner between 1938 and 1940. In April, the NNW Board reported that it had reconsidered the immediate demolition and had no "current" plans to destroy Hansen House and thus indelibly alter Fogelbo's historic landscape. Subsequently, the NNW Board has refused to rescind the demolition decision permanently and has denied requests for "Save Hansen House" advocates to speak to the Board. While the Board decided to paint Hansen House in anticipation of the crowds that have come to see Olle Bolle, the roof remains in urgent need of replacement, the clear fir interior elements are at risk of irreversible rain damage, and the Board continues to refuse to discuss its current and long-term plans for Hansen House.

In response to the Board's threat to destroy Hansen House, advocates for its preservation and the integrity of the historic Fogelbo estate have formed "Friends of Fogelbo." This group is taking steps to incorporate as a nonprofit with the State of Oregon so it can obtain tax-exempt status and raise money to support its mission. The draft mission of the Friends of Fogelbo is to preserve Fogelbo, its contents and collections and the Nordic-American vernacular cultural landscape it anchors, as well as the legacy of Sir Ross Fogelquist, for the enjoyment and edification of all people. We plan to partner with NNW through the Friends of Fogelbo Standing Committee of the Board to ensure that the Life Estate Agreement governing Ross's restricted gift to NNW guarantees the Board "shall" establish.

For more information and to help Save Hansen House, preserve Fogelbo, and protect the ongoing legacy of Sir Ross Fogelquist, please contact info@friendsoffogelbo.org.



A-K Lindbergh: A Letter of Appreciation by Jimmy Granstrom

As we are approaching Lucia, we should take a moment to remember the tremendous contributions to our organization by former board member Anna-Karin Lindbergh Rednoske. Anna-Karin was already on the board when I joined it 10 years ago, and was very active in organizing and volunteering. She performed as a singer and musician at many different events, including Lucia and Valborg, and was also the music director for the Swedish school in Portland. I fondly remember the warm welcome I received from everybody on the board, and especially from Anna-Karin, when I joined it in 2012. Funnily enough, it turned out that Anna-Karin's brother, who's also involved in music - though on a professional level - is also named Jimmy! Shortly after joining the board, I asked Anna-Karin if she wanted to write a song with me. It eventually resulted in two songs, one called "Neath The Midnight Sun" (that we co-wrote with Brent Rogers and Jonny Zetterström) and the other one called "En decemberdröm (A December Dream)", both of which have been performed at several Midsummer and Lucia events since 2016. Both songs are fully or partially about my magical spring/summer in Umeå in 2011. To capture what's special about Umeå, I wrote an article which was published (as an excerpt) in New Sweden's newsletter and on our website in November 2022. It recently also became the cover article of Nordstjernen, which is sent to Swedes and Swedish-Americans all across the U.S. (https://issuu.com/swedeninamerica/docs/nordstjernen_2313). I had a very difficult relocation from Umeå to Portland back in 2011, and I am very grateful that Anna-Karin took the time to work on the first version of the song with me. The creation of these songs, and their subsequent performances at Portland's Nordic community events, is one of my fondest memories from my years in Portland's Nordic Community. Many thanks to Anna-Karin and everyone else who made it happen! Anna-Karin will continue to work as an organist, music teacher and music director after resigning from the New Sweden board.



Lucia video, December 2021

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bL1Yq6dw_4Y



Lucia 2019



**With Maritha,
Valborg 2022**

While we're remembering former board members, let's not forget about Maritha Rufus, who was the Lucia chair for many years, as well as our former secretary Pam Martin. Many thanks for your tireless service, Pam and Maritha!

Not quite as old as Stonehenge, not quite as tall as Stonehenge...but you can't beat the beachfront location! Learn about Ale's stones and the southernmost region of Sweden in this edition's Landskap Spotlight.



Join us for a festive holiday market with treats, crafts, and family activities!

**Norse Hall
111 NE 11th Avenue**

**Saturday, November 25
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

New Sweden Cultural Heritage Society

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