



SCANDINAVIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY

Newsletter - 2011

www.scandinavianculturalsociety.org

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE:

The AGM of the Scandinavian Cultural Society will be held at the:

Scandinavian Community Centre, 6540 Thomas Street, Burnaby, BC, on:

Monday, February 28th, 2011
at 7:00 pm to:

- 1) Consider the reports of the directors.
- 2) Consider the Financial Statements for the year ended December 31st 2010.
- 3) Elect directors, Group A.
- 4) Transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Attendance at this Annual General Meeting is open to all group representatives and individual members.

Dues may be paid at or prior to the meeting.

Dated the 17th January 2011.
By order of the Board of Directors for the Scandinavian Cultural Society.



From the series: Studies In Sea Ice Greenland Roberta Holden

Nordic Art & Photography - Show & Sale



Aaslaug Boulter

Saturday, February 26th
Sunday, February 27th, 2011
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Scandinavian Community Centre
6540 Thomas Street, Burnaby

Featured Artists:
Aaslaug Boulter, *painter*
Roberta Holden, *photographer*

Meet these and over 30 other outstanding artists, photographers and designers of Nordic heritage or theme. Shop and enjoy refreshments, and listen to our own Midsommar Spelmanslag folk orchestra at the **Opening Reception** Saturday, February 26th, 11:30 a.m.

For information or Reception RSVP: 604-294-2777
OR: info@scandinaviancentre.org





President's Message:

by
Poul Erik Rasmussen

The year 2010 has been a busy one of celebrating and promoting Nordic Heritage. As a result, a stronger collaboration and mind-set seems to have taken hold.

We offered five successful programs that included: art, history, film and music. Perhaps the most outstanding one was "The Nordic Spirit Heritage Images" show, created by a dedicated Swedish committee whose hard working members presented a wonderful array of local Swedish history. As the exhibit opened, the intent was to let it speak for itself – and indeed it did – to two hundred guests.

The successful event was very much enjoyed by not only the visitors viewing the show, but by those who shared their own historically important pictures. A shared perspective seemed to grow in the hearts of both participant and visitor. The old prints beautifully illustrated the "years-gone-by" and they soon created a new sense of understanding in the younger visitors. The exhibit was fresh, personal and simple, yet informative in context, recognizing Swedish immigration to B.C. over the latter part of the 18th century to 1950.

Our society relies on all our co-sponsors and honoured members and we thank them. We are very pleased to be a part of the Scandinavian Center and our Nordic community in general – working to enrich the young and old alike. And down the road, it is hoped that our young will be the ones who will kindle the spirit of our Norse heritage in their grandchildren.

"Heroes of the Harnessed Hickory"

January 23, 2011 at the Scandinavian Centre
6540 Thomas Street Burnaby, B. C.

Time: 2:00 pm

Admission by Donation



(Photo taken in 1945)

This 50 minute film created by HHS archivist/Historian Donald Grant, presents the early history of ski racing and ski jumping on the North Shore mountains (1927-1967) from the perspective of Hollyburn's ski pioneers. Many vintage photos and film clips donated to HHS during the past decade are featured in the film.

It is fitting, after the 2010 Winter Olympics that we remember our former ski champions.



Creative Arts in the Viking Age

Saturday, February 26th, 2011 - 7:00 p.m.

Scandinavian Community Centre
6540 Thomas Street, Burnaby

Illustrated presentations featuring Norse historians:

Reik Felag

Musical interludes with lyre and voice by Sheila Wright

Coffee and Admission \$10

The Scandinavian Cultural Society is pleased to present

Nordic Spirit 2011



Nuxalkmc and Norwegians at Saloomt River, near Bella Coola

Early Norwegian Immigrants in B.C.



A gallery presentation of superb heritage images depicting the life and times of the early Norwegian settlers in British Columbia.

Saturday, March 26, 10 am - 4 pm

Sunday, March 27, 10 am - 4 pm

Scandinavian Community Centre

6540 Thomas Street, Burnaby, B.C.

(off Kensington near the freeway)

Sponsored by:

Norwegian House Society

Scandinavian Cultural Society

The Danish Canadian Community Centre

Supported by BC Gaming Commission

Poster photos courtesy of Peter Solhjell

A review of our 2010 cultural programs:



NORDIC SPIRIT: Swedes in B.C.

Karin Edberg Lee - enjoys the exhibit of early photos

The Scandinavian Cultural Society presents a range of events from across Nordic cultures. Despite generous support from The Danish Canadian Community Association, some activities like our Art Show were omitted this year due to lack of funds and difficulty finding key volunteers. But your tireless work and your support in attendance allowed us to hold many other excellent events. Thank-you for helping to preserve and promote our shared heritage.

FILM: *Flammen og Citronen* (2007). “Flammen” and “Citronen” were the code names of two of Denmark’s most renowned World War II resistance fighters. The film depicts their complex characters and the moral ambiguity of their exploits. It was introduced by Mads Bunch (Department of Central, Eastern, and Northern European Studies, UBC). He discussed the renewed interest, among young Danish writers and filmmakers, in stories of wartime Denmark. Judith Anderson helped realize this event.

TALKS:

The St. Roch and the Northwest Passage. Retired RCMP Sgt. Daniel Lemieux told the story of this famous ship. Designed for service in the icy waters of Canada’s north, the St. Roch’s hull bobbed up like a cork, keeping it above the ice pack. This design, however, made it very unstable and not for those prone to seasickness. In 1939, former Norwegian, RCMP Sgt. Henry Larson, was ordered to take the St. Roch through the Northwest Passage from Vancouver to Halifax. The St. Roch, built in 1920 at

Burrard Shipyards, returned to Vancouver via the Northwest Passage in 1942. Later it sailed to Halifax via the Panama Canal and became the first vessel to circumnavigate the North American Continent. Dianne Kilback organized this event.

THEATRE:

Teatime at Trolldhaugen. Together with Norwegian House Society, we presented an evening of music and theatrical sketches written by Don Mowatt, honouring the 200th birthday of the renowned Norwegian violin virtuoso and composer, **Ole Bull**. The sketches portrayed his relationship with Edvard and Nina Grieg. Bull was a friend and promoter of the younger composer and his flamboyant and peripatetic life inspired the character of Peer Gynt, immortalized in Grieg’s music.

Don Mowatt and Carolyn Finlay played the sketches while the NyNorsk Ensemble presented excerpts from Grieg’s *Peer Gynt* and *Wedding Day at Trolldhaugen*. Hardanger fiddler Bill Boyd and pianist Janet Mowatt played three tunes from Grieg’s Op. 72. Violinist Jin Kim transformed himself into Ole Bull, playing the showpiece *Et Sæter Besøg*. Sopranos Erika Olson and Deanna Lindzen brought to life songs of Grieg and Bull, while versatile pianist Janet Mowatt accompanied all the soloists. Åsa Eidelöf, Janet Gabites, and Paul Broste added the colour and motion of Norwegian and Arabian dances, while “mystery woman”, Eileen MacKenzie, reminded Peer Gynt of his past entanglements and peccadillos.

HERITAGE PHOTO DISPLAY:

Nordic Spirit: Swedes in B.C.

Continuing our Nordic Spirit Series, this show presented an important collection of Swedish heritage photos taken between 1888 and 1950, many of which have never been publicly shown. The images displayed the lives, organizations, and communities of Swedish immigrants as they struggled to build our province. Purchase a book of 100 of the photographs from aaxen@shaw.ca.

Laila Axen, chair of the photo committee, noted that the work of assembling, evaluating, restoring, and digitally reproducing the photographs took nearly two years. Photographer Tom Abrahamsson did the restoration and reproduction. At the opening reception, Midsummer Spelman-slag established ambiance with Swedish folk tunes while dignitaries and guests enjoyed Swedish food prepared by the Swedish Cultural Society.

FASHION:

Bridal Fashion Show: Other Times and Other Places. Samples from her collection of heritage bridal fashions were presented by fashion historian, Karin Edberg-Lee. This event was sponsored together with the Swedish Cultural Society.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Viking Ship “Freydis Joanna”. Steve Morck, President of the Danish Canadian Museum Society, described this replica built in Roskilde Denmark. Videos showed the ship under construction, its launch in Denmark, and its trip across Canada to Alberta. This event was jointly sponsored with the Danish Canadian Community Centre and the Federation of Danish Associations in Canada, represented by Solvejg Nielsen, event organizer.

ON-GOING ACTIVITIES:

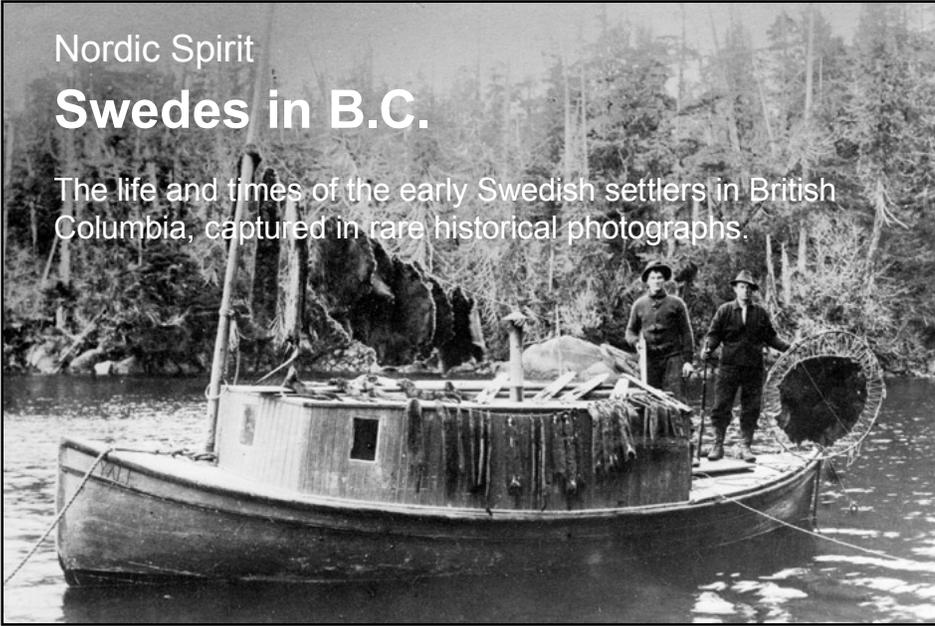
Trolls once again invaded the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival. They wound up in the Troll Garden, where kiddies and imaginative adults heard them singing and making noise as they played and frolicked about. The little troll folk were kept out of too much mischief by Vivian Blackwell, self-declared troll mother. Meanwhile, Poul Erik Rasmussen assisted by Diane Rogers and other members of the B.C. Genealogy Society were at our society table offering advice and encouragement to those wanting to trace their Scandinavian ancestry.

art, history, music, film & literature

Nordic Spirit

Swedes in B.C.

The life and times of the early Swedish settlers in British Columbia, captured in rare historical photographs.



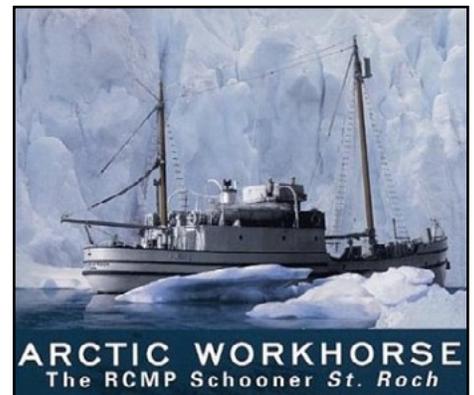
Ole Bull
Norwegian violinist
and composer.



*Bridal
Fashion
Show*



FLAMMEN OG CITRONEN



Midsummer Festival "Troll Garden" delights young & old alike

There was a dog in the forest,
His name was Jack Russell.
He barked in our faces
And started a tussle.

He barked at our hairdos,
He barked high and low.
Then he scurried on out,
His human in tow.

On Midsummer Night
we had a big fire,
We danced and we giggled
And lost our attire.

It seemed someone noticed
because up in the trees,
as if put there by bees,
were some clothes on a wire.

Then Su-su from Salt Spring
came for a vizzit,
Lots of us here are her family,
Others are back on her island.
Some under bridges
and some uppin' trees.

To those who "borrowed" the
trolls on a rope and our quacking
duck, we will lift our curse and
your tongue will no longer feel
hairy once you have returned
them next Midsummer.

Thanks to CT, CM, MC, JC and
Gladys for their troll-sitting
help in the Garden.



Goodbye to Lillian

We always miss our members when they are no longer here but Lillian Svendsen's passing this fall is a particular loss. Her insightful and 'from the shoulder' comments have helped to steer us toward good decisions over her many years on and off our board. Even after her health deteriorated, she continued to support us cheerfully and with humour, publishing our attractive Art and Photography Show program of artist biographies and attending and helping us at events when she could. We have much appreciated Lillian's company and will miss her contributions to our Society.

Lecture & Documentary

**March 26th, 2011, from 7 - 9 pm
Scandinavian Community Center**

KAREN BLIXEN - Scandinavian writer is presented by Mads Bunch, lecturer in Danish and Scandinavian Studies at UBC. The evening program will present a lecture and documentary movie (with Meryl Streep) on the life of Karen Blixen. Blixen is the insightful Scandinavian writer whose work resulted in the outstanding movie, 'Out of Africa'.

She is the subject of Mads' doctoral work. This will be our last opportunity to hear from Mads, who over the tenure of his stay at UBC, has consistently contributed insight to our cultural events at the Scandinavian Centre. His program is ending and he will return to work in Denmark this April.

We now have a new website!
Please visit our online pages to find
the latest information about our previ-
ous and upcoming events including
our annual newsletter.

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

Membership 2011 Campaign

Dear friends,

Your membership needs to be renewed. If you are not a member already, we invite you to join us as we work to celebrate our shared heritage. The Scandinavian Cultural Society organizes events that act as bridges to the best of our collective Nordic heritage. We hope to see you at these coming events:

- a) "Heroes of Harnessed Hickory" A film by Donald Grant presenting the early history of ski racing and ski jumping on Hollyburn Mountain. January 23 2011.
- b) Nordic Art and Photography Show and Sale. Featuring works by: Aaslaug Boulier, Roberta Holden, and over 30 other artists of Nordic heritage or theme. February 26th and 27th 2011.
- c) An evening program featuring the Reik Felag Viking Group. February 26th 2011
- d) Nordic Spirit Heritage Images Show. This Festival will this year feature the Norwegian Immigrants in British Columbia. Over 100 panels with rare historical photographs.
- e) A evening program with a Norwegian theme. Watch for details in flyers and on the net.
- f) The monthly Genealogy Sessions will continue in 2011. Experts will help you find and interpret the records of your Nordic ancestors.
- g) Look for other talks, workshops, and performances which we will be supporting together with our partners.

Our events occasionally may be rescheduled, so please check the Scandinavian Centre flyer and these web sites: www.scandinavianculturalsociety.org and www.scandinaviancentre.org Please come to our fine events, they are for you and your family and friends. We appreciate the support of our sponsors and the BC Gaming Commission in our work, and we are also very grateful for yours. Join our hard working and culturally productive society.

Thank you!

Poul Erik Rasmussen
President



Scandinavian Cultural Society

6540 Thomas St., Burnaby, BC V5B 4P9

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City, Prov., _____ Post Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Membership - 2011

Annual Dues: \$15.00

Can you help us by volunteering as:

Board Member

Event Organizer

Event Worker

Genealogy Group:

Piecing together your family history is like a big puzzle in which you find the individual pieces yourself. The archival records, for the most part, are available on the internet. But if you prefer the old fashion way you can visit regional archives or Family History Centers.

We continued our sessions in 2010 and had expert help from Diane Rogers, Helen Niskala, Marnie Ingvaldson, Irene McCutcheon, Arne Møller, and others. Raija Leskinen translated the Finnish Records.

At the European and Midsummer Festivals, we shared display tables with the B.C. Genealogical Society where Diane Rogers and her team answered questions from our numerous visitors.

Sadly, in 2010 we lost one of our valued members, Lillian Svendsen, who originally started our sessions. It was in October that she lost her courageous battle against cancer.

We will continue our sessions and workshops in 2011 and everyone is welcome to attend. It is fun to work in a group sharing the experience with others.

So, if you need further information or wish to be added to our notice mail-outs, please contact:

Poul Erik Rasmussen,
sonofrasmus@shaw.ca
Phone: 604-526-1233.

Scandinavian Cultural Society

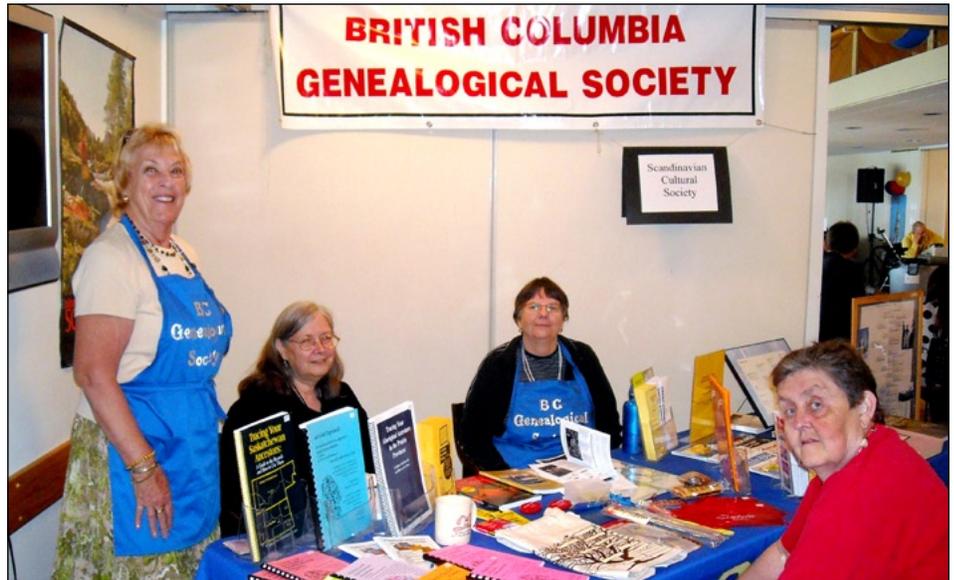
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604-929-6731
peter_eineigel@telus.net

Secretary: Diane Kilback
604-294-3715
dkilback@telus.net

Membership Secretary:
Poul Erik Rasmussen



L-R: Jean List, Diane Rogers, Marianne Soltau, and Lillian Svendsen
The BCGS had tables at the European and Midsummer Festivals

SCS Events Calendar - 2011

January 15th 2011, 13:00
Genealogy Session.

January 23rd 2011 at 14:00
Hollyburn Movie

January 31st 2011, 19:30
Membership Meeting.

February 6th to 19th 2011
Swedish Heritage Photos displayed
at the Pendulum Gallery, Vancouver.

February 19th 2011, 13:00
Genealogy Session.

February 25th 2011
Set-up for the Art Show.

February 26th and 27th 2011
Art Show and Sale.

February 28th 2011, 19:00
Annual General Meeting
followed by Membership Meeting.

March 19th 2011, 13:00
Genealogy Session.

March 25th 2011
Set-up for the Heritage Photos

March 26th and 27th, 2011
Nordic Spirit Heritage Images
Show, featuring Norway.

March 26th, 2011, 19:00
Karen Blixen - Her life and work.

March 28th 2011, 19:30
Membership Meeting.

April 16th 2011, 13:00
Genealogy Session.

April 26th 2011, 19:30 (Tues.)
Membership Meet.

May 21st 2011, 13:00
Genealogy Session.

May 28th 2011
Genealogy Table at EU Festival

May 30th 2011, 19:30
Membership Meeting.

June 18th 19th
Genealogy Table at Midsummer

September 17th 2011, 13:00
Genealogy Session

September 26th 2011, 19:30
Membership Meet.

October 28th 2011, 13:00
Genealogy Session

October 30th 2011, 19:30
Membership Meeting.

November 26th 2011, 13:00
Genealogy Session

November 27th 2011, 19:30
Membership Meet.