

The Scandinavian Cultural Society



Scandinavian Cultural Society Newsletter 2017

www.scandinavianculturalsociety.org

**The AGM of the
Scandinavian Cultural Society**
will be held at the
Scandinavian Community Centre,
6540 Thomas Street, Burnaby,
BC,
Monday February 27th, 2017
at 7:00 pm to:

- 1) Consider the directors' reports
- 2) Consider Financial Statements for
the year ending December 31st, 2016
- 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
and individual members.

Dues may be paid at or prior to the
meeting.

Dated January 20, 2017.
By order of the Board of the
Scandinavian Cultural Society

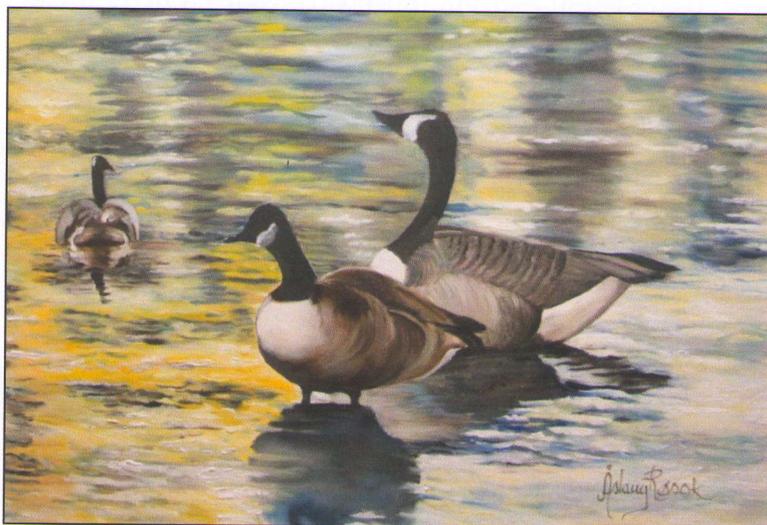
*Thank you
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Carolyn Thauberger

Nordic Art & Photography Show & Sale



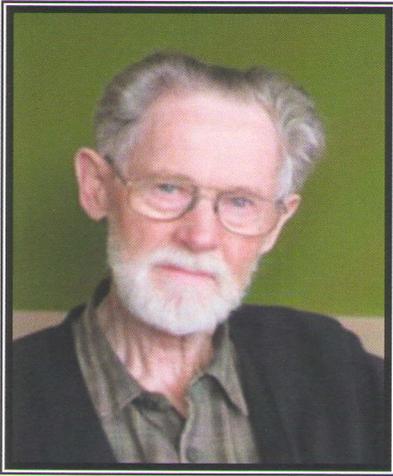
Aaslaug Røsoek Boulier

February 25th & 26th, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Scandinavian Community Centre
6540 Thomas Street, Burnaby

Featured artist: Aaslaug Røsoek Boulier
Meet Aaslaug and more than 30 talented Canadian
artists and photographers of Nordic heritage who will
exhibit over 100 of their works.

Highlights — Saturday, February 25
Opening Reception, 11:30 a.m. *RSVP*
Illustrated talk by John Stuart, 1:00 p.m.
"Denmark's Impressionist Painters"

Light lunches available each day 12 noon to 3 p.m.
Contact: sonjabusch@hotmail.com or 604 522 4567
Entry forms also available from the office or online



President's Message
by
Poul Erik Rasmussen

of Vancouver or Reik Felag Norse Re-creation Society.

We thank our financial supporters: BC Gaming Commission, the Danish Canadian Community Centre, the City of Burnaby, and you.

Our members work very hard, especially those on our Board. I appreciate your creative ideas and the many hours you put in. We hope members and non-

members alike have enjoyed not only attending our shows but helping make them happen. Thank you for your company and for your support. We put events on *for you and with you.*

Please join the Scandinavian Cultural Society and/or make a donation to us. We enclose a membership form for your convenience. Membership is a direct financial support through fees and donations, but it also indicates to our funding agencies that we have a strong member base and are worthy of their support.

Enjoy our 2017 events.

As we start our 4th decade of cultural work I am reminded of how closely our Nordic communities work together. It is the secret of our organization's success and of our contribution to Canadian society in general. We strive together, not just for ourselves but for each other. At SCS, partnerships maximize our funds and encourage community connections. A third of our events are done in collaboration with other groups such as the Centre Houses, BC Genealogy, Scandinavian Dancers



Poul Erik Rasmussen and Arne Møller above, Rikke Rytter and John Stuart below, enjoy the satisfaction of creating a fine event. This could be you. Join the SCS.

Photos B. Ostergaard



Valentine Concert



Special guests:
The Poulsbo Youth
Norwegian Folk Dancers

1:00 to 3:30 pm. Saturday February 18, 2017
Scandinavian Community Centre
6540 Thomas Street, Burnaby



Classic country with Ed Wahl
Valentine songs with Nordic Bleu Quartet
from the Runeberg Chorus



Voice and Accordion with
Kyosti Sutela
and Hannu Lambert

By donation
Coffee



Information at cithauber12@gmail.com or 778 228 2334
Presented by the Scandinavian Cultural Society

Nordic Spirit 2017: Settlements

Immigrants to BC from Nordic countries often settled together, forming little communities such as Sointula, Bella Coola, Annieville, and Cape Scott or Gimli in Manitoba. The stories of these places illustrate how resourceful and resilient Nordic people created useful lives in new and often dangerous environments. They also show the long and continuing history of cooperative endeavour of which our Community Centre is a fine example.

The 2017 *Nordic Spirit: Settlements* show focuses on these early communities, continuing our SCS heritage collection and

preservation programs. Like the past nine Nordic Spirit photo shows, this one will display over 300 previously unpublished photos from our members' private collections together with text documenting their experiences. Stories and memories will also be gathered and presented, focusing primarily on the period up to 1960. The photos will be displayed and illustrated talks will present the history and stories of our settlements. Come to our Opening Reception at 11:30 Saturday April 8 for free coffee and a concert. And enjoy our special Saturday evening event: "Tales of the Vikings in Canada".

Please offer to help

We need donations of your heritage photos, information, and stories, but also your support on our organizing committees. We need people to lead the collection of photos from each Nordic country. We need technicians (paid) to scan and improve older photos and help us lay them out together with text for printing and framing. We need people to prepare and present short talks on the history of each community. And we need your help in getting our show together that weekend.

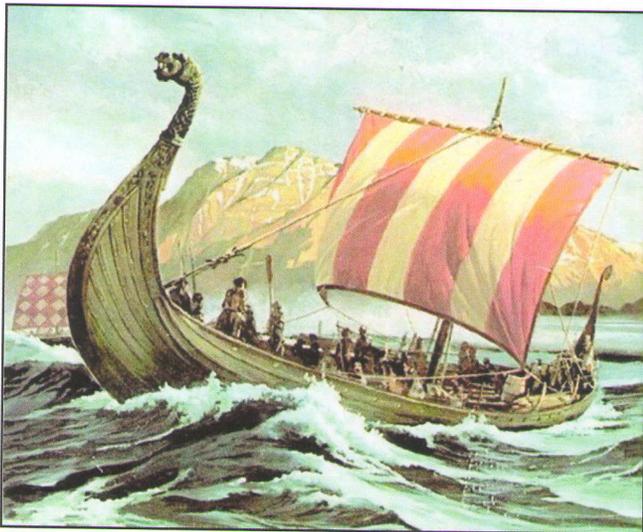
Helping to preserve our heritage is rewarding work. As well, volunteers help create a fine event for our whole community.

To help or offer material please contact Carolyn at:
cthauber12@gmail.com

778 228-2334

The Scandinavian Cultural Society
presents

Tales of the Vikings in Canada



Saturday 8 April, 2017, 7:00 pm
Scandinavian Community Centre, Burnaby
a dramatic retelling of the Viking Sagas
By Don Mowatt and cast
Refreshments included
Admission by donation

The Scandinavian Cultural Society

presents

Nordic Spirit Settlements

Images and Stories

April 8 & 9 2017

Scandinavian
Community Centre

Opening Reception & Concert
Saturday 11:30 am

Don Mowatt: Tales of
Vikings in Canada

Saturday evening 7 pm

Admission by donation

Supported by the Province of BC and
The Danish Canadian Community Association

Leif Erikson Day Festival 2016: Sweden



Brian Sell and Illka Salokannel in Norse dress. Chain armour is heavy!
all photo: B Ostergaard



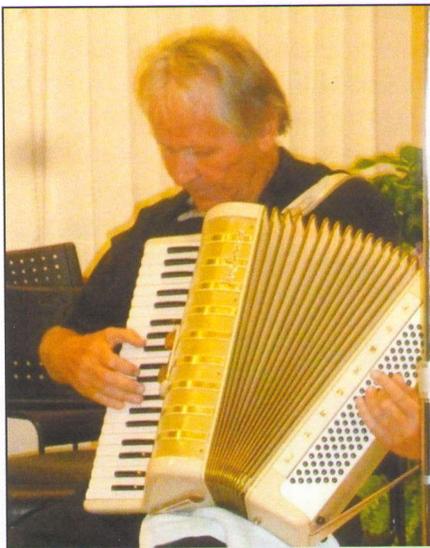
Linda Woodcock at replica Norse loom



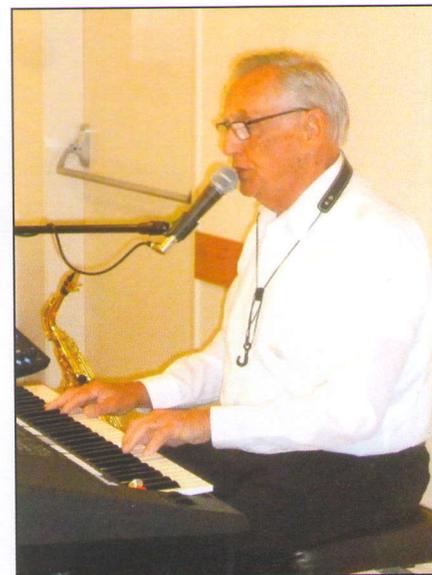
Ted Stroman chopping off a head

Leif Erikson Day, 1 October 2016, focused on Sweden and Swedish immigrants to Canada. To set the stage. Martin Emslie shared his Swedish travel video, and Ted Stroman, in reading from a Viking tale, *Rode Orm*, reported how a chopped-off head flew into the beer keg! Reik Felag Norse Re-creation Society brought exhibits and a talk by John Cowan on the exploits of Swedish Vikings. Historian Christina Reid described the Swedish settlement in Matsqui Village, (Abbotsford). Swedish Honorary Consul Thomas Gradin stirred a debate on issues of conflict in modern Sweden. That discussion continued long into the Swedish *fika* (coffee). A fine evening concert finished our day.

photos: A. Møller



Hannu Lambert, accordionist
Josh Spencer singer/composer



Bo Fred Olsson, singer comedian

Sammenspil with Swedish nyckelharpas



Scandinavian Dancers Workshop

The Scandinavian Dancers of Vancouver presented a daylong workshop at the Scandinavian Community Centre on 29 October, 2016. With support from the Scandinavian Cultural Society, we were able to bring in two highly-respected instructors, Harry Khamis from Seattle, and Roo Lester from Illinois. They taught new dances from Sweden and Norway, welcome additions to our repertoire, with music provided by Martha Levenson, also from Seattle.

The event was well attended, with more than thirty participants from the Vancouver area

and Washington state.

The workshop wasn't all work! We enjoyed a lunch of open-face sandwiches catered by Kate Praegel and a well-deserved, delicious dinner catered by Tina Taylor. In addition, Reidun Seim brought an assortment of Norwegian baked goodies and waffles for the coffee breaks. The evening ended with more festive dancing to music played by our local bands.

—Judith Anderson



Deb Jones, Raul Segas

Photo: R. Segas:



Genealogy

The SCS sponsors a very busy genealogy program together with BC Genealogy Society. The group meets once a month at the Scandinavian Centre where experts on each Nordic country welcome you and provide free language and technical support while you search for your ancestors. We are grateful for the use of the Iceland room which has special access to local records. Together with BCGS we have promoted both our groups at the Genealogy Fair at West Vancouver Library, the Genealogy Booth at the European Festival, and the Genealogy Room at the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival.

Diane Rogers / Poul Erik Rasmussen

Partnerships



Carina Spencer photo: B. Ostergaard

Partner Carina Spencer (above), was president of both the Swedish Cultural Society and Sweden House in 2016. It was a pleasure to work together with her and both her groups to create Leif Erikson Day. Reik Felag, the Scandinavian folk dancers, and our community's folk musicians are also frequent partners as well as BCGS, and our Centre Houses. These collaborations enable the SCS to offer more, and more exciting, events. We share funding and workload and we gather new creative ideas. SCS members enjoy following this long standing Scandinavian tradition.

Letter of support

The SCS sent a letter to the Danish National Museum in Alberta for inclusion with their application for virtual museum funding. Through a virtual museum, your photos or other family heritage materials (with your permission) might safely appear on-line.

Here is the opening text:

The Scandinavian Cultural Society is very pleased to support in principle the Danish Canadian Museum's application to the Virtual Museum Canada for the creation of an on-line virtual museum. The history of Danes in BC is a record of hard work and high achievement, of sharing and interweaving Danish values and culture into Canadian society. The virtual museum would make evidence of this record available to all.

The SCS also extends an offer of partnership to the Danish Canadian Museum. The virtual museum would be of advantage to us in fulfilling our organization's own interests as well as those of the Museum. We see many ways we can work together. . .

Nordic Spirit Design Show 2016: Textile & Costume



Magnus and Livia Falkenhagen
Photos: Randall Peterman

Lisa Shearer Donates Folk Costume

Long-time SCS member Lisa Shearer has donated a beautiful authentic Norwegian folk costume to the SCS. She no longer uses it for dancing and doesn't want it to be wasted in a closet. So she donated it to our Society. She hopes it might be used to enhance our events.

The costume is from West Telemark in Norway and includes shirt, underskirt, apron, purse, brooch, and buttons. Lisa bought it in Stavanger in 2000.

You may have noticed it on Cultural Society member Dianne Kilback at Midsummer (see photo). The costume also hung in our Nordic Design fashion show in February. We like to look good.

Thank you, Lisa.



Dianne Kilback in West Telemark bunad
Photo: D Kilback

Digs Inspire Show

Inspired by discoveries of Viking settlements in Newfoundland, award-winning broadcaster, performer and author Don Mowatt created a dramatic retelling of the Viking Sagas with a Canadian twist. His show, *Tales of the Vikings in Canada*, 7:00 pm April 8, will feature actors Don Mowatt, Carolyn Finlay, Cameron Cathcart and folk band Gammel Dansk. History can be a pleasure!



Dianne Kilback and troll-minding grandchildren Annika and Koji Laprise
Photo: D Kilback

Midsummer Troll Garden

At Midsummer, our collection of 250 small but dangerous trolls leaves the Centre attic to party in the back forest with our smallest SCS members and friends. This year Dianne Kilback's grandchildren Annika and Koji Laprise helped with troll minding and so did Johan Wolff and Gladys Johnson among others. Thank you.

Trolls showed up at our festival long ago when Susan Jensen's troll collection set up their own Midsummer festival alongside

Given their proclivity for increase, Norwegian trolls may have spread to Sweden, Denmark, Iceland, Finland and maybe your house. Now they are yours too. Good luck with that.

ours. When Susan moved away she was able to capture and take with her a few of her tamest trolls but fifty or so got away. Again, they appeared at our Festival. Vivian Blackwell and friends herded them for ten years but it was not easy. Trolls have ADHD, and while they are not good at math, they do tend to multiply!

When rioting was popular in

Vancouver there was a jail for rioter trolls. Full. At our 2016 festival a bride and groom held a troll wedding with a ring bearer troll who carried a tiny pink pillow. (He lost the ring.) Our fiercest trolls compete in a fight ring. Others guard the gate. Tiny trolls go to school to learn how put salt in sugar bowls, turn milk sour, and capture

dirty children. One night it rained. Oh no! Delighted trolls dived into the mud. Poor Vivian took home bags of soggy trolls. (Never do that.) She made them bathe and sit still in front of her fireplace to dry. The trolls hated this. Some ran away. Now Vivian has trouble in her house. Stuff moves around and she can't find things. It's horrible.

Vivian wants a rest from wild trolls. We are looking for very tough-minded new troll-sitters.



Minding trolls is hard work—Magnus and Livia Falkenhagen

Photos above and below: R. Peterman



"Not fair: I need that hair!"

Scandinavian Cultural Society Membership Form

6540 Thomas St., Burnaby, BC V5B 4P9

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, PROVINCE: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

Membership - 2017

Single Dues: \$15.00

Family: \$20.00

Can you help us by volunteering as:

Board Member

Event Organizer

Event Worker

We appreciate the cooperation and support of organizations at the Scandinavian Community Centre, and acknowledge the assistance of the Province of British Columbia, the City of Burnaby, the Danish Canadian Community Centre, Burnaby Arts Council, and our members. Thank you.



Again MLA Richard Lee presented the SCS with a Award of Appreciation for cultural work.. photo: B Ostergaard

Scandinavian Cultural Society CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2017

- Jan. 21st , 1:00 pm Genealogy Session.
January 30th 7:00 pm SCS Meeting.
February 11th 1:00 pm Genealogy.
February 18th 1:00 pm Valentine Concert.
February 25th—26th Art and Photo Show
February 27th 7:00 pm
SCS Annual General Meeting
March 18th 1:00 pm Genealogy.
March 27th 7:00 pm SCS Meeting.
April 8th and 9th Nordic Spirit Festival.
April 15th 1:00 pm Genealogy.
April 24th 7:00 pm SCS Meeting.
May 20th 1:00 pm Genealogy.
May 27 & 28 Genealogy Table
European Festival
May 29th 7:00 pm SCS Meeting.
June 17th-18th Genealogy Room
Midsummer Festival
Troll Garden at Midsummer Festival.
September 16th 1:00 pm Genealogy.
September 25th 7:00 pm SCS Meeting.
September 30th Leif Erickson Festival.
October 28th 1:00 pm Genealogy
October 30th 7:00 pm SCS Meeting.
November 25th 1:00 pm Genealogy.
November 27th 7:00 pm SCS Meeting.
Some dates may change. For confirmation:
www.scandinaviancentre.org
www.scandinavianculturalsociety.org

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