



Scandinavian Cultural Society Newsletter 2020

www.scandinavianculturalsociety.org

The AGM of the Scandinavian Cultural Society

will be held at the
Scandinavian Community Centre,
6540 Thomas Street, Burnaby
Monday February 24th, 2020
at 7:00 pm to:

- 1) Consider the directors reports
- 2) Consider Financial Statements for the year ending December 31st, 2019
- 3) Elect directors, Group B
- 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, 2020.

By order of the Board of the
Scandinavian Cultural Society

*Thank you
Newsletter Contributors*

Photographs: Arne Møller,
Bent Ostergaard, Dianne
Kilback.

Writers: Poul Erik Rasmussen,
Maria Lakes, Dianne Kilback,
Dianne Rogers, Carolyn
Thauberger

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Carolyn Thauberger
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The Scandinavian Cultural Society presents

Sámi Celebration

1 pm to 9 pm, Saturday, Feb 1, 2020

Scandinavian Centre, 6540 Thomas St., Burnaby



Lloyd Binder, parents Ellen, Otto, herder Henrik Seva (middle), 2015

Sámi National Day Dinner with Lloyd Binder Inuvik Reindeer Herder

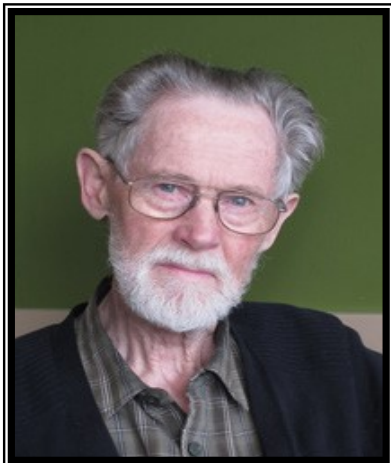
**Dinner tickets \$30
604 294-0749
tmolufsen@gmail.com**

**films, talks
displays
furnished lavvu**

**Opening 1 pm
Social 5pm
Dinner 6 pm, program 7 pm**

**Info scancentre.org
or 778 228-2334**





President's Message by *Poul Erik Rasmussen*

Again I congratulate our members and Board on another year of fine shows and events that preserve and display our shared history and cultural heritage. There are reasons for that success. Our attitude of working *for* others, for you, gives us satisfaction, so we find it easy to work hard.

Another reason for our success seems to me to be our habit of collaboration and coopera-

tion. Our work together with other groups around our Centre maximizes our funds, broadens our audience, and encourages community connections. At least half of our events are done with other Centre groups—Houses, folk dancers, or Reik Felag Norse Society. We also work with groups outside the Centre community such as BC genealogy. We collaborate with individuals as in our Nordic Spirit heritage photo shows and our Design shows. All organizations might use such methods to achieve their own goals.

Many of us in the SCS are particularly proud of our work with the photo shows which so clearly achieve the organization's

goals. Several of the sets are on display around Vancouver. The rest are in my basement.

The first Saami design show in 2017 was also a noteworthy achievement. We had to figure out how to put up a Lavvu, and I personally had something of an adventure collecting the reindeer meat from the airport.

Thank you all for your support over the year. Please join the Scandinavian Cultural Society and be part of our important work. A membership form is on our back page. Membership fees are a direct financial support to the SCS as are your donations. We like our funding agents to know we have a strong member base and are worthy of their support.

Enjoy our 2020 events.

Poul Erik Rasmussen
President
Scandinavian Cultural Society

End of the Decade: SCS photo review by Bent Ostergaard



Nordic Spirit 2020: Immigrant Women

The Scandinavian Cultural Society will focus on Immigrant Women for our Nordic Spirit photo show this spring. Women held powerful roles as families faced the challenge and the adventure of making a new life in Canada. We want to recognize their struggles and celebrate their achievements.

Again, we invite you to contribute photos, recollections, and family stories from before 1970. We also need short presentations of your stories for our afternoon programs from 1 to 3 pm Saturday and Sunday.

Join us in gathering and sharing our history and in making a fine event for our community. It is fun. To lend us pictures or tell us stories or just help organize contact one of our board members in your heritage area. Or Carolyn. Phone and email addresses are on our back page.

Photo contacts by heritage area

Carolyn—general
Diane—Finnish
Maria—Swedish
Gerri—Icelandic
Judith—Norwegian
Poul Erik, Bent, Arne—Danish

Pie Supper

Nordic Spirit Saturday evening begins at 5 pm with an open bar and social hour while we rearrange furniture. At 6, you can get a fine supper of salads and cold meat for a suggested donation of \$15 or \$20. Donate less and you might wash dishes!

Dinner comes with home made PIE—apple, Saskatoon and blueberry, flapper, pumpkin. Maybe more. Choices!

Left over pie will be sold at noon on Sunday. Now you will have to come both days. Fine with us. You can help put away the show.

The Scandinavian Cultural Society
presents

Nordic Spirit: Immigrant Women

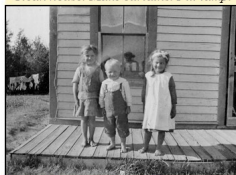
photos and stories of struggle and achievement

April 18 & 19, 2020

**Scandinavian Community Centre
6540 Thomas Street, Burnaby**



Clean house. Make curtains. Fill lamp.



Mind kids. Sew clothes. Hang washing.



Wear white apron, stockings to work.



Feed hens, pigs, dog, kids. Bleach apron.

**Opening Reception
Saturday April 18, 11:30 am**

Admission free both days
**heritage photos
exhibits
story telling Sat-Sun 1-3 pm**

**Saturday evening
5 pm Social Hour bar open**

Admission by donation
6 pm Cold Dinner, pie

**7 pm Don Mowatt:
Erik's Saga in Greenland**

Info: scancentre.org/events-calendar/
Share photos and stories 778 228-2334

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



Plant garden. Dig, water, hoe, pick, can.



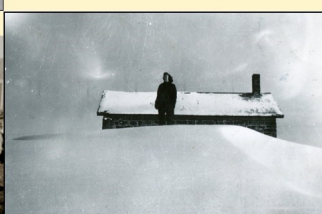
Catch turkey, kill, clean, stuff, cook.



No hired man. Help husband saw wood.



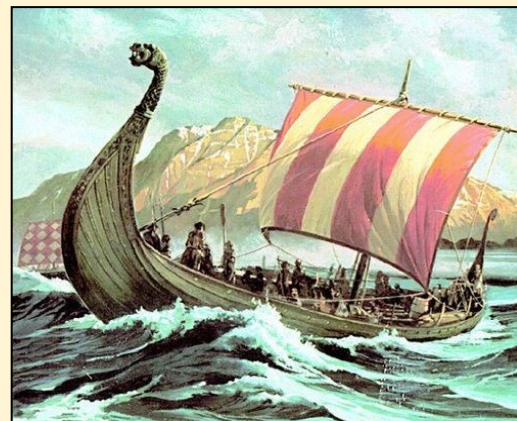
Entertain Minister and Congregation.



Shovel as needed.

The Scandinavian Cultural Society
presents

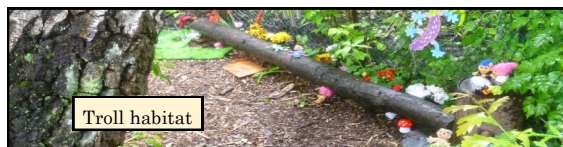
Erik's Saga in Greenland



Saturday 18 April, 2020, 7:00 pm

Scandinavian Community Centre, Burnaby

a dramatic retelling of Viking Sagas
By **Don Mowatt** and cast
Refreshments
Admission by donation



Troll habitat

Lloyd Binder at Sámi Dinner

Lloyd Binder, retired manager of the Inuvik reindeer herd, will speak again at our Sámi dinner this time telling us of his family's historic adventures in Canada.



Mikkel and Anna Pulk, 1931

Lloyd's grandfather, Sámi herder, Mikkel Pulk, his wife Anna, and children, arrived from Kautokeino, Norway in 1931. Pulk and two other herders met 5000 reindeer coming from Alaska and brought them on to Inuvik. It took five years—the longest reindeer drive in history. Much drama was encountered and 2000 reindeer were lost. Lloyd will bring family photos such as the one on the left showing Mikkel and Anna shortly after their arrival.



This may be our last chance to enjoy a reindeer dinner and Lloyd. He says his health may not allow him to travel far next year, and changes are being made with the reindeer and the meat might no longer be available.

You Can't Keep Trolls a Secret!

"Small kids love the Troll Garden," says Jackie Laprise a Midsummer Festival volunteer. But the Garden behind the tents is not always easy to spot. There, trolls live behind the leaves in secret trails in the woods. Poul Erik built them a quaint water wheel. Benches allow adults a rest, and bubbles, puzzles and plasticine entertain children. Jackie printed troll pictures to colour and take home. Trolls like your house.

Volunteers said children were often reluctant to leave, suggesting our trolls are a nice addition to the festival, especially for families with young children. Jackie wants to add more games and signs next year to improve the Garden.

Thanks to volunteers Jackie Laprise, Jaden Laprise, Kian Perry Laprise, Koji Laprise, Lili Blazich, Akiyo Okugawa and Salina Brydson who made the Troll Garden a friendly place for our smallest Festival



Akiyo Okugawa and Koji Laprise minding trolls.

Photo: D Kilback

guests. Please volunteer to help next year. Trolls can be trouble to mind and lots of help is required. It is a nice job, too, sitting in the forest looking at happy children.

Dianne Kilback
Troll Garden Coordinator



Sonja Busch to Toronto

Long time Cultural Society member and strong supporter Sonja Busch, has moved to Toronto. Her son Todd lives there at least in theory. She spends much time flying to babysit his cat while he works overseas. He can be away for months at a time. She says it will be cheaper if she just moves in with the cat.

Sonja managed the Centre for some time, and there her experience as an emergency room

nurse came into good use. In any disaster—flood, power off, out of beer!—Sonja stayed cheerful and calm. Nor did she complain when we interrupted her again and again demanding copies or stuff we forgot.

She has been organizing our Art Show, a big job, but Sonja can organize a herd of cats. In Toronto there is only the one cat so I expect we can hold our Art Show there next year. SCS members may retire but they seldom actually quit working.

Research Your Family Tree at the Centre

The SCS sponsored Scandinavian Genealogy Group meets in the Icelandic Room one Saturday a month at the Scandinavian Centre. We welcome new members and visitors – we have wifi, computers, and access to historical BC birth, marriage and death records thanks to the Icelandic Canadian Club of BC. We assist with Nordic family history in person or via e-mail.

Members experienced in Nordic and Canadian and US genealogy can help you access less known and paid Nordic databases. Some advisors have special interests, like Scandinavian inventions, Nordics in BC fishing, or BC Nordic women's history. One member is indexing records from the First (1892) Scandinavian Lutheran Congregation of Vancouver.

Bring questions and a summary of family information. We find North American immigration and census records, or church records from Scandinavia. To find 'lost' living relatives bring any names, addresses, place names, dates, etc. We can recommend genealogy software and DNA genealogy testing services too.

Our group gets very excited about finding and sharing people's ancestral family records. A lot of Nordic records are available on-line, but sometimes searches take a while. Nonetheless, we do find those families! We keep the Genealogy room open both Saturday and Sunday during Scandinavian Midsummer Festival. Our BC Genealogy society's boutique has books and family history supplies.

We also participate in other events together with the SCS such as the Gulf Of Georgia Cannery's 2019 multicultural exhibit May 1st. Outside events Promote Nordic Genealogy and family history and the activities of both the BCGS and the SCS.

Dianne Rogers
Consultant
BC Genealogical Society



BC Genealogy and the SCS

Sámi Searvi Formed

A Sámi Searvi (group) was formed by Karen Sorensen supported by Poul Jouksu and the SCS. Karen, of Norwegian Sámi descent, has helped the SCS organize Sámi National Day Celebrations. She also lent us her beautiful Sámi tools and clothing for display.

The Sámi were the first people moving into the north of Norway, Sweden, Finland and Russia after the ice melted 10,000 years ago. Roman historian, Tacitus, mentioned them in 98 BC. Archaeology suggests they were also the first to use skis. They lived successfully as nomads in that harsh environment by following reindeer for food, tools, and tents. Clothing

and tools were finely decorated as they couldn't carry works of art around with them.

Today, like Canada's own Northern people, the Sámi search for a place for themselves in modern culture and economy while keeping the traditions of their heritage.

Karen encourages anyone to join the Searvi. "There is much to learn, and we have fun if we are together" she says.

The Searvi is helping with our Sámi National Day Celebration, February 1st. We will have movies, documentaries, and talks all afternoon as well as coffee. A social hour follows, then the reindeer dinner with slides by Lloyd Binder, Inuvik.

Join the Sámi Searvi.
contact Carolyn Thauberg
778 228-2334
cthauber12@gmail.com



Learn About Sámi Culture

This very old drawing shows a lavvu with rain shield, early style skis, reindeer pulling sleds, milking reindeer, herding dogs, and a baby cradle packed with moss and designed to float upright if dropped into water.

Major SCS Events 2019

Sámi Celebration



Hannu Lambert



Anne Maia, Karen and Tobias Sorensen



At home in the lavvu.

Art and Photo Show



Poul Erik opened all our shows.



These fine nature photos were by Bent



Aaslaug Boulier our multi talented artist was again featured.

Nordic Spirit: How we got here



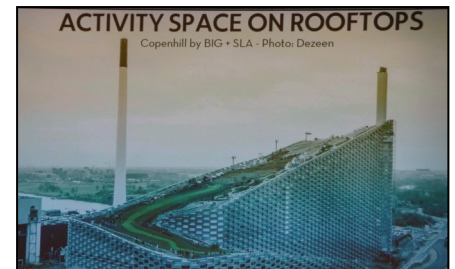
Sammenspil enjoyed playing for us yet again. We enjoy them too.



Mike Ronnekleiv's relative Otto Novik came by fishing boat!



Architect James Bligh told us Swedes live in trees now. . .



. . . and Danes do so have ski mountains.

Leif Erikson Day with Denmark



Silver Winds Flutists came twice.



Otto Christensen (right) told of Jens Munk's voyage.

Bent Ostergaard & Arne Moller took the photos in this newsletter. Bent did the photo collages. Fine work.

Midsummer Troll Garden



All our shows had Book Displays by Centre Librarian Pia Christensen. Thanks.



Guess who had a lot to say for the SCS in 2019



Hints: L Binder herder, D Molton pseudo Norsk, O Christensen revisionist history, N Eyford cool heritage, P. Juoksu Fine Finn, E Kuhlman Great Dane, S Larsen piano player, A Møller gourmand, PE Rasmussen artisan, S. Rasmussen unruffled, A. Ruben OC, J. Sing next PM? AM Sorensen dancer, K Sorensen deer lady, C. Thauberger informer.

Outreach

The SCS likes to reach outside our Centre to a wider audience. In 2019, John Stuart, Judith Anderson, Bent Ostergaard and Maria Lakes participated in two Steveston events—Pull of the Net and Richmond Maritime Festival—with displays on *Scandinavian Fishing in BC* and *Viking Boats*. Thank you to Isaac Vanderholt who lent



us two pictures to display and to Marian Toft and David Moulton for lending a photo-collage of NHS's Viking ship replica *Munin* as well as several artifacts for display.

The Seine Net Loft at the Britannia Shipyards National Historic site was ideal location for SCS to set up. Many of our 150 visitors were pleased to learn about the SCC in Burnaby. They related their own experiences in fishing, boat building, and meetings with Scandinavians, and reconnected with any of

their own Scandinavian backgrounds. There were many mutually enriching conversations for both visitors and SCS volunteers.

SCS members enjoyed learning from fellow exhibitors, and helping to celebrate the diverse and multi-cultural maritime history of Steveston.

Maria Lakes
Coordinator



Scandinavian Cultural Society

6540 Thomas St., Burnaby, BC V5B 4P9

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, PROVINCE: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

Membership - 2020

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.



Scandinavian Cultural Society Contacts

www.scandinavianculturalsociety.org

Executive

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604-294-3715 dkilback@shaw.ca

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Maria Lakes: marialakes@yahoo.ca
Steen Larsen: steenlarsen@shaw.ca
Bent Østergaard:
604 274-4194 bostergaard@shaw.ca

Facilitators

Webmaster: judithanderson@shaw.ca
Bookkeeper: Riitta Huttunen
604-941-0760 riittahu@gmail.com
Art Show Facilitator: vacant
Genealogy: Poul Erik Rasmussen
Genealogy: Diane Rogers

Scandinavian Cultural Society CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2020

18th January 2020, 1:00 pm. Genealogy Session.

27th January, 7:00 pm SCS Meeting.

1st February, afternoon Saami National Day talks, films. Evening reindeer/salmon dinner.

15th February, 1:00 pm, Genealogy Session.

24th February, 7:00 pm, Annual General Meeting.

21st March, 1:00 pm, Genealogy Session.

30th March, 7:00 pm, SCS Meeting.

18th and 19th April, Nordic Spirit Heritage Images Festival: Immigrant Women. Cold supper with pie.

25th April, 1:00 pm, Genealogy Session.

27th April 7:00 pm, SCS Meeting.

16th May 1:00 pm, Genealogy Session.

25th May 7:00 pm, SCS Meeting.

20th- 21st June: Midsummer Festival Programs.

19th September 1:00 pm, Genealogy Session.

28th September 7:00 pm, SCS Meeting.

3rd October all day, Leif Erickson Day Festival.

24th October 1:00 pm, Genealogy Session.

26th October 7:00 pm, SCS Meeting.

28th November, 1:00 pm, Genealogy Session.

30th November, 7:00 pm, SCS meeting.

Dates may change. For confirmation:
scancentre.org scandinavianculturalsociety.org