



# Swedish Center News

Issue No. 499

September 2007

## Our Mission

*To promote better understanding between the United States and the Nordic countries, with emphasis on Sweden, and to perpetuate Nordic culture and traditions through the teaching, observance, practice and celebration of this culture and its traditions.*

### The SCC Calendar:

Looking for the monthly calendar of events? Check out the calendar found on the back page of the newsletter.

**SAVE THE DATE  
FEBRUARY 9, 2008**

**SWEDISH CULTURAL  
CENTER AUCTION**

## Pancake Breakfast

**Sunday, September 9, 2007  
8:00 am - 1:30 pm**

**LIVE SCANDINAVIAN  
FOLK MUSIC**

*Richard Svensson & Bjarne  
Jacobsen, Folk Voice Band,  
NW Pelamannit*

Adults \$7.00  
Children 5-12 \$4.00  
Children under 4 free

## University of Washington hosts Dr. Hans Blix, October 18

Dr. Hans Blix has accepted an invitation from the University of Washington Department of Scandinavian Studies to hold a seminar for advanced students on current issues in disarmament. Dr. Blix will also give a public lecture entitled "From a Cold War to a Cold Peace: Is it Time for a Revival of Disarmament?" The lecture is co-sponsored by the Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation, the UW Alumni Association, and the Jackson School of International Studies.

Dr. Blix is Chair of the independent international Weapons of Mass Destruction Commission and the former Executive Chairman of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) for Iraq.

While the Kane Hall lecture is free and open to the public, **tickets are required** and early reservation is highly recommended. All Swedish Cultural Center members should receive a personal invitation in the mail soon. The event will take place Thursday, October 18, 2007 at 7:00 pm and is being held in Kane Hall, University of Washington campus.

## Choruses kick off new season with reception, October 13

Svea Male Chorus and The Swedish Women's Chorus are presenting an evening reception to kick off their new season on Saturday, October 13 at the Swedish Cultural Center. The event is being held in conjunction with the Center and will feature a lively mix of songs along with tasty appetizers for you to enjoy. Singers and listeners alike are invited to join the groups in the cozy atmosphere of the SCC lobby, sampling food, wine, sparkling cider, and music; all the while taking in the lovely views of Lake Union that the club offers.

This was previously announced as a dinner event – the planning group, however, wishing to provide an intimate and relaxed social gathering, amended the event to a reception featuring light refreshment and lots of entertainment.

The event takes place between 6:30–8:30 pm and reservations are required. Cost is \$15.00 per person and reservations must be made no later than October 1. Please contact Jim Erickson for reservations and information at 206-546-1364.

## Swedish Cultural Center

1920 Dexter Avenue North  
Seattle, WA 98109

206-283-1090 Telephone  
206-283-2970 FAX

e-mail:swedishcc@gmail.com  
www.swedishculturalcenter.org

### Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday  
9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

### Board of Directors

President	Brandon Benson
Vice President	Karl Larsson
Secretary	Kristine Leander
Treasurer	Don Wahlquist
VP/Properties	Paul Norlen
Directors	Tim Andersen Bob Blair Jeremy Holt Pam Madden Randy Nelson Susan Ramstead

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Past President Dr. Gene Nystrom

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### Swedish Center News

Editor Jeff Christensen

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Deadline for material for the next issue is the date of the next dinner meeting (see calendar). Bring in or fax (206-283-2970) typewritten articles to the Swedish Center Office.

## President's message

This month I'd like to update members on the progress of the Strategic Planning Committee.

Last spring the *Swedish Center News* featured an article introducing the Strategic Planning Committee. This committee began meeting nearly a year ago and quickly developed a mission statement for its effort: "Plan a framework to build a sustainable, energizing Swedish-American community that fosters relationships with other Swedish-related groups and takes advantage of its unique property."

The committee is led by Kristine Leander, who serves as Secretary on the SCC Board of Directors. Other committee members include Karl Larsson, Don Wahlquist, Paul Norlen, Randy Nelson, Susan Ramstead, Tim Andersen, Pam Madden, Bob Blair, and me (all members of the Board of Directors) and Executive Director R. W. Clay.

The committee began by considering the many activities supported by the Center. The committee met with representative groups of long-time SCC members, newer members, other Swedish-American organizations, and non-members familiar with the organization. From the useful information gathered at these meetings, the committee developed a number of recommendations related to community, the building, volunteer involvement, programs, cooperation with other Swedish clubs, and marketing.

A more detailed presentation of the recommendations of the Strategic Planning Committee will be made at the September Membership Meeting on Wednesday, September 9, 2007. We hope to see many members there. Please make your dinner reservation by calling R. W. Clay at (206) 283-1090.

Brandon Benson  
President



## SACC Crayfish Dinner and dance, September 7

The Swedish-American Chamber of Commerce (SACC) hosts a crayfish dinner (*kräftskiva*) on Friday, September 7, co-sponsored by and held at the Swedish Cultural Center. The event starts at 6:30 p.m. and includes a silent auction to benefit SACC, dinner, and music for dancing.

Please make your reservation by August 28 with the Swedish American Chamber of Commerce. Tickets purchased by August 28 are \$45 for SACC and SCC members (\$50 for non-members) and \$30 for students (over the age of 21). Tickets purchased after that date will be \$60 and subject to availability.

## Director's notes

As I write this we are approaching the middle of August and very little has changed since my last message to you. We are still in the planning stages of new fencing for the East parking lot, as well as doing some exterior clean up of the property, in general. Some of the projects might lap over into September, so if you have some interest in volunteering you can call me.

Speaking of volunteers, we are still in need of receptionists.

We do have some activities line up for this month that will be fun. Remember the Swedish Pancake Breakfast will be on September 9 because of the holiday weekend on the first Sunday of the month.

On Thursday night, September 6, we have old time Swedish vaudeville at 7:00 pm in the Stockholm Hall – a “free will” donation is requested, to cover expenses. In the same room, the following night at 6:30 pm, we will be holding the SACC’s Crayfish Dinner and Silent Auction. This has always been a really fun event and includes singing, dancing, drinking and, of course, Crayfish; you can make your reservations by calling (206) 622-5640. The Happy Hours are still happening also, so I hope to see you in the Center soon.

R.W.

## Strategic Planning Presentation at Monthly Member Meeting

This is a special invitation for all SCC members to come to the Membership Dinner in September and learn about the progress of the Strategic Planning Committee.

The planning committee is now ready to share their overall vision for the Center:

A hub of Swedish culture and activities, centered on our fantastic building, amazing view, and (we hope, in time) a great Swedish restaurant.

A hard-working group has been meeting almost every other week over the past year to explore how to revitalize the SCC, and they’re excited to share their vision and plans with the members. As part of their process to build a vision, they met with long-time SCC members, new members, Swedish Americans in the community (non-members), officers and members of other Scandinavian organizations, representatives from the Nordic Heritage Museum, and the honorary Swedish Consul, Lars Jonsson. Please come hear their presentation about the exciting future in store for the SCC.

Membership meetings always feature a delicious dinner (prepared by As You Like It catering) preceded by a social hour. Please remember that you need to make dinner reservations in advance; just call the office at 206-283-1090. *Vi ses!*

## Membership Dinner



WEDNESDAY,  
September 12, 2007

Social 6:00 pm  
Dinner 6:30 pm  
Cost: \$15.00

### PROGRAM:

A review of the progress  
being made by the  
Center's Strategic  
Planning Committee

### DINNER MENU:

Mixed green salad  
with lingonberry vinaigrette

Stuff pork loin with  
sundried tomatoes,  
olives and cardomom

Oven roasted  
baby carrots

Garlic-Rosemary  
mashed potatoes

Berry crisp with  
fresh whipped cream

For reservations, please call:  
**206-283-1090**

## Scandinavian Folkdance class begin this month

The Nordic Heritage Museum, with a great dance floor and lots of history, knows that the Waltz, Schottische, Polka and Hambo, once the most "In" of dances, are every bit as much fun now as they were 100 years ago...they're just not as well known. But you can learn them in a three-week, six-session class taught by Patrick McMonagle.

Classes will be held at the Nordic Heritage Museum, Tuesdays and Wednesdays evenings, beginning September 25 and running through October 10. Cost is \$35.00 for NHM members and \$40.00 for non-members. The course is aimed at beginners: you need no experience. People without partners are welcome.

To register call Charlotte Lehmann at the Museum (206) 789-5707

## Changing address?

Want to let us know about a recent or upcoming move or change of address? Simply send your address changes or corrections to: Swedish Cultural Center, Attn: Address Change, 1920 Dexter Ave N, Seattle, WA, 98119.

## New SCC Translation Service Starts in September

A new benefit to members of the Swedish Cultural Center is the SCC Translation Service, beginning in September on a trial basis.

SCC members will be eligible for a special rate on translation services from a list of qualified Swedish-to-English translators. Ten percent of the fee will go directly to the Swedish Cultural Center, in support of the scholarship program. The minimum charge for the service will be \$25.

To use this service, simply call the SCC office at (206) 283-1090; the office will then forward your request to a translator.

## Folkdancing at the center

The Swedish Cultural Center Scandinavian Folkdance is now on the fourth Saturday of each month. Next dance; Saturday Sept 22nd to the lively music of Skandia Kapelle. Music starts at 8:00 pm. Enjoy those waltzes and hambos. No Experience required. (Come early, 7:30, for an impromptu lesson.) Partners not required. \$9.00.

Apartments Starting at \$1395

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**VIEWPOINTE**  
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*A Retirement Community*

Great Views.  
Great Location.  
Great Retirement.

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[www.TheViewpointe.com](http://www.TheViewpointe.com)

# Experience Old-Time Swedish Vaudeville in Seattle

As reported in last month's *Swedish Center News*, the "Olle i Skratthult" ensemble, a troupe of performers from Värmland, bring their old-time vaudeville routine to the SCC on Thursday, Sept. 6 at 7:00 p.m. and at the Nordic Heritage Museum on Friday, Sept. 7, again starting at 7:00 p.m.

The show follows the life and career of Hjalmar Peterson (aka "Olle i Skratthult") from his birth in Munkfors, Sweden to his death in Minneapolis in 1960. The group recreates his popular songs and comedy sketches in Swedish; interludes in English will help the audience understand what's going on and provide some additional context about the material.

The "Olle i Skratthult" ensemble includes Ove "Clapson" Carlsson, who portrays Peterson; Carina Ekman, an actor and director with a long stage and film career; and musicians Peter Ingmarsson (bass), Robert Lunde (accordion), and Peter de Maré (fiddle). Members of the group recently performed at the "Bondkomikerfestival" (Festival of Rural Comedy) in Munkfors, with a record attendance of over 700 people.

Join us on Thursday, September 6 to be entertained the way they were a century ago. No tickets or reservations are required; a free-will donation will help cover expenses involved with the production.

## 2007-08 Pancake Breakfast Musicians' Schedule

DATE	8:00-9:30 AM	10:00-11:30 AM	11:45 AM-1:30 PM
10/07/07	Nordic Reflections	Skandia Kapelle	NW Pelimannit
11/04/07	Spelmanslag	Vi Aro Musikanter	Nordiska Folkdancers and musicians
12/02/07	Richard Svensson & Bjarne Jacobsen	Folk Voice Band	Skandia Kapelle
1/06/08	Skandia Kapelle	Speldosan	Spelmanslag
2/03/08	Richard Svensson & Bjarne Jacobsen	Spelmanslag	The Norsemen
3/02/08	Spelmanslag	Vi Aro Musikantor	Nordiska Folkdancers and musicians
4/06/08	Speldosan	Folk Voice Band	NW Pelimannit
5/04/08	Richard Svensson & Bjarne Jacobsen	Skandia Kapelle	Nordic Reflections
6/01/08	Speldosan	Folk Voice Band	Nordic Reflections



### CROWN ROOM

food service by  
**As You Like It Catering**

*Eric DuBois, Owner*

### Visit the Crown Room Lounge

#### HAPPY HOURS

Held the first and third Friday of each month  
5:00 and 7:00 pm

Come join your friends for discount drinks, snacks, games and more.

#### **Happy Hour dates for this month:**

September 7 & September 21

### SCANDINAVIAN HOUR



KKNW 1150 AM

*Hosts Ron Olson & Doug Warne*

Saturday mornings  
9:00-10:00 a.m.

**Music & other programming from the homeland**

*News about, or in the interest of, our members...*

## The Swedish Cultural Center announces

### New Members

Margareta Post Brown, John-Otto Liljenstolps, Katrina Sheehan and Michael Loyd, John and Cynthia Svensson

### Deceased

Carolyn Purser

### Memorials

Karin Gustafson in memory of Kerstin Ellstrom

### Donations

Karin Gustafson, Richard and Susan Nelson, Richard Svensson

Have questions about your own membership or would like to give a membership to the Center to a friend? Call the Center Office at 206-283-1090.

## Moving or changing address?

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## Scandinavian Heritage Festival 2007 joining Oktoberfest NW, October 5-7

The Scandinavian Heritage Festival (SHF) is joining forces with Oktoberfest NW as it holds its annual event October 5-7 at the Pavilion Hall, Western Washington Fairgrounds, Puyallup.

The Scandinavian Heritage Festival exhibitors and vendors are pleased to invite you for three full days of festivities with Scandinavian cultural exhibits, demonstrations, arts and crafts, music, food, folk dancing and Scandinavian gift items. Each day there will be ethnic entertainment, dancing and singing. A Festival raffle features a Grand Prize of two round trip tickets to Scandinavia courtesy of SAS and SHF. Need not be present to win. Drawing held Sunday October 7 at 5:00 pm.

The program for this event will include: Normanna Male Chorus, Katrilli, Finnish Folkdancers, Nordic Spirit, NW Accordion Players, Svea Duo, Vern & Jeannie Lundquist, Poulsbo Children Dancers, Sylvia's Fjordsong Band and Smilin' Scandinavians.

Event hours are Friday through Sunday between 11:00 am - 7:00 pm. Admission to all events, including Oktoberfest NW: Friday, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm, FREE; Friday, 3:00 to 7:00 pm, \$8.00; Saturday, all day, \$8.00; Sunday, \$4.00 (half Price). Children 12 and under will be admitted free. Free Parking is offered in the fairground's Gold and Blue lots. Overnight RV parking for a fee in the RV parking lot. Entrance - Gold or Blue gate of fairgrounds at 9<sup>th</sup> and Meridian. For more information, call 425-881-1544 or send an email to: [desireeomdal@hotmail.com](mailto:desireeomdal@hotmail.com). You can also find information on the Web at [www.oktoberfestnw.com](http://www.oktoberfestnw.com).

## Partner Dance Classes!

*Right here at the Swedish Center*

**All ages - Singles & Couples Welcome  
No Partner Necessary**

*Sunday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings  
East Coast Swing, Lindy, Waltz, Salsa, Zydeco & More!*

**Way fun free class parties —  
come out and see what it's all about!**

**9/5 at Swedish Cultural Center with  
dancing, demonstrations, mixers and mini-lessons**

**Register today!** Northwest dance network 206-781-1238  
[www.nwdance.net](http://www.nwdance.net)

**in the spirit of Living Traditions Dance**

# Hemlandsnytt

*News from the homeland*

*A column of current Swedish news topics, taken from Swedish news media. They do not reflect the opinions of the Swedish Cultural Center.*

**Passage:** Swedish film director Ingmar Bergman died on July 30 in his home at Fårö. He was 89. Ingmar Bergman was widely regarded as one of the great masters of modern cinema. Through more than 50 films, Bergman's vision encompassed all the extremes of his beloved Sweden – the claustrophobic gloom of unending winter nights, the gentle merriment of glowing summer evenings and the bleak magnificence of the beautiful island of Fårö, where he spent his last years.

**Gratitude:** "Dear Fredrik". That was the opening of the thank you letter that Prime Minister Fredrik Reinfeldt recently received from President George W. Bush. The letter followed Reinfeldt's May 15 visit to the White House, where the two leaders discussed trade and questions related to the environment. In the letter, Mr. Bush also thanked Reinfeldt for the power saw that he was presented at their meeting.

**Leisure time:** Sweden has the most vacation days in comparison to other European countries, totaling 43 days off (vacation and "red days" included). The work week average of 37.8 hours, combined with the days off, adds up to 1,631.7 hours per year. Only the French,, who average 35 hours per week have a lower number: 1,568 hours per year.

**Swoosh:** A new test train has recorded a new speed record of 282 kmph (175 mph). Compared with the fast trains in France and Japan that move at a speed of more than 300 kmph (190 mph), the new Swedish speed record may not seem that impressive but it will be a welcome improvement in going from A to B.

**High tech:** At Luleå airport, a new system is being tested that will help quicken check-in times. The system uses automatic baggage handling based on a passenger's finger prints. At check-in, the passenger scans the baggage tag. Then he or she places a finger on the scanner and the scan automatically connect the print to the right bag. Then at the gate, the finger is scanned again to verify that the passenger belonging to the bag is boarding the plane. Got it? Oh yes, the passengers have to do the check-in on their own.

**Moose hunt:** Many people living in Karlstad can breathe a sigh of relief now that a really mean moose, which had been harassing and attacking the residents for some months, has been shot. Two hunters finally felled the rascal only after one of them had to jump up on a tractor and then up on a car before he safely could shoot.

Submitted by  
Gunnar Wallin

## Vännerna



### NEXT MEETING

Please call the Center Office at 206-283-1090 .  
for information  
regarding this month's  
Vännerna Business and  
Sewing Meeting

Vännerna is open to  
both men and women

The purpose of Vännerna  
is to promote fellowship  
among members of the  
Swedish Cultural Center.

We also seek to provide  
a format of varied programs  
encouraging discussions  
and sharing of ideas and  
work with and support the  
Center through service and  
financial support.

Look for more  
information about  
Vännerna in future issues  
of *Swedish Center News*.

## Swedish Center Calendar - September 2007

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1	2
3	4	5 SCC Board Meeting 5:30 pm	6 Olle I Skratthult Performance 7:00 pm	7 Happy Hour 5:00 pm SACC & SCC Crayfish Dinner 6:30 pm	8	9 Pancake Breakfast 8:00 am
10	11	12 Membership Dinner Meeting 6:00 pm	13 SCC Arts & Crafts Meeting 11:00 am	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 Happy Hour, Crown Room Lounge 5:00-7:00 pm	22 SCC Folk Dance 7:00 pm	23
24	25	26 Finnish Film Series 7:30 pm	27	28	29 SCC Folk Dance 7:00 pm	30

## Swedish Center Calendar - October 2007

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3 SCC Board Meeting 5:30 pm	4	5 Happy Hour 5:00 pm	6	7 Pancake Breakfast 8:00 am
8	9	10 Membership Dinner Meeting 6:00 pm	11	12	13 SWC & SMC Season Kick-off Reception 6:30 pm	14
15	16	17	18	19 Happy Hour, Crown Room Lounge 5:00-7:00 pm	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				