

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.

A New Perspective on Heritage

At the Swedish Club, we celebrate heritage—but in so doing, we also celebrate immigration. Our heritage is one we brought to America from another place. And while immigration has its positive aspects, there's also the uncomfortable fact that when Europeans came to these shores, they disrupted, displaced and too often destroyed native heritages no less significant than their own.

While we can't change the past, we've become increasingly convinced that as citizens of the Puget Sound region, we should all take the time to learn about the heritage of the place we came *to* as well as that of the place we came *from*. To that end, we've invited Ken Workman to speak at our next Members & Friends Dinner on Wednesday, Feb. 17.

Ken, a member of the Duwamish Tribe, is the great-great-great-great-grandson of Chief Sealth, for whom Seattle is named. Growing up in West Seattle in the 1960s, Ken knew he was Duwamish, but was told by his family to keep it to himself. He built a career as a systems and data analyst at Boeing. It wasn't until a little over a decade ago, while doing some genealogical research, that he learned of his connection to the famous chief. He became active in tribal politics, eventually serving as a member of the Duwamish Tribal Council, and dedicated himself to learning Lushootseed, the Duwamish language. "I personally think that preservation of language is key," he says. "It's vital and it's key to understanding who we are as a people."

The Duwamish have lived in what is now Seattle since the Ice Age, but have lacked federal tribal recognition since 1974, when they were left out of a landmark court decision on fishing rights. Efforts to appeal that decision and re-establish recognition have been ongoing ever since.

Now retired from both Boeing and tribal leadership, Ken nonetheless remains active in promoting the heritage his family once sought to conceal. "What I ask people is, 'Recognize whose land you're on,'" he says. "When you go to a place, any place in the world, ... understand whose land you're on, and whose bones—the ancient, ancient, ancient bones—are down in that soil. Because under this city are the bones of the Duwamish people."

We'll hear more from Ken at our Members & Friends Dinner, when we'll meet indoors, socially distanced, per Phase 2 guidelines. Chef Christine will make cabbage rolls, potatoes, pickled beets and dressed greens, and pumpkin roll with whipped cream for dessert. RSVP by Tuesday noon, Feb. 16, to rsvp@swedishclubnw.org or 206-283-1090. \$22. Late RSVPs and walk-ins \$25. Dinner 6:30 p.m.; Ken will speak around 7:30 p.m.



Swedish Club

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Office Hours

Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
Hours may be restricted
due to COVID-19.

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Swedish Club News

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Deadline for material for the next issue is Feb. 15.

Bring articles into the office or fax to 206-283-2970. You may also e-mail articles to kristine@swedishclubnw.org.

Club Notes

We first heard about COVID-19 a year ago, toward the end of February. Our Great Finds Sale was poorly attended, and we chalked it up to the “novel coronavirus” that was just starting to spread in King County. Only a few cases had been reported, but everyone was a bit on edge.

And then, suddenly, by the middle of March, everything was shut down. It’s been a tough year since then, as we experimented with programs, meals and entertainment within the restrictions imposed by the state. Nearly every couple of months has meant pivoting to a new routine for us: no dining indoors at all, then dining at 25 percent capacity, then takeout only. We Zoomed in-house entertainment from one floor to another, and that transitioned to entertainment only

outdoors with masks or behind a screen. We even had *lutfisk* in a tent, but then the rules changed again and we could offer only takeout. (As of Feb. 1 this year, we can go back to 25 percent capacity, but plans are evolving—see swedishclubnw.org for the latest updates.)

Our members were the bright spot in this experience, as they supported us with their donations and dinner pickups, their compliments and kudos. Even though member households have decreased by around 20 percent, fundraising has gone up—and not just by a little bit. Substantially. The number of donors has doubled over previous years, and so has the total of their gifts.

Another bright spot is that between having no events and no visitors to the Club, and receiving donations from the

Swedish Club Foundation plus PPP funds to pay for staff hours, we have refreshed the Club with new paint, new floors and a total sprucing up of the pancake kitchen. Pancake volunteers will love it, and members will notice the improvements at the Club when you are finally able to visit.

Here we are now a year later with a new national government, effective

vaccines (although much of the distribution remains to be worked out) and approaching liftoff to a post-pandemic world. It feels like a reset. What does it mean for our members, our Club and the community? What have we learned and what will be our new normal?

I don’t know about you, but I believe we have learned the lesson of connection and kindness. Maybe one silver lining to the

pandemic is that we are just a little more careful of our relationships. In a sense, we are all roommates to each other in the community, and decency has made a comeback. I hope that every member has done something specific to make life a little easier or better for a neighbor or a stranger.

Here are a few stories from our members:

- A couple of months ago we asked a team of our volunteers to call members confined to retirement homes. When one member heard about this—even though she wasn’t one of those volunteers—she decided to do us one better and take a day to actually visit Club members in their retirement homes. Of course, it was mostly waving through windows, but it was a cheery

I believe we have learned the lesson of connection and kindness. ... In a sense, we are all roommates to each other in the community, and decency has made a comeback.

- reminder that someone cared.
- A quarantined couple began making meals one evening a week for residents of Compass Housing who were cut off from previous free lunch meals.
- Another member has organized weekly urban hikes—rain or shine—for masked-up friends eager to get together but wanting to do it safely.
- One member has a 97-year-old neighbor with bad eyesight. Due to the quarantine, the neighbor can't get out, so the Club member bought her a CD player and an audiobook she was interested in.
- One retired couple with health care backgrounds are helping neighbors get vaccination appointments and then driving those who need a ride.
- Another member reported she has doubled her usual donation to the food bank in her neighborhood.
- Of all the stories I've heard, perhaps

this is the most impactful. A Swedish Club member who lives in Skagit Valley knew she didn't need her stimulus check, so when the first one came, she donated it to her favorite charities. When the second one came, she wanted to give it to a person instead of an organization. She remembered that her extended family occasionally employs undocumented workers for farm work. She and her cousin drove to the home of one of those workers, and she presented him with the check. After he understood what it was, he wept.

Be open to old ideas. Kindness, decency, connection to our neighbors, whoever they are. Here's hoping it's the new normal.

KRISTINE LEANDER, Executive Director
kristine@swedishclubnw.org

President's Message

Local Scandinavian shops and restaurants have been good friends to the Swedish Club, and they help to sustain Nordic traditions. It's worthwhile to mention them frequently during the pandemic—they could always use your support.

One such place is the delightful **Byen Bakeri** in lower Queen Anne at 15 Nickerson St. In addition to cakes and other sweets, this shop offers fresh Scandinavian breads along with coffee and sandwiches. Pickup, delivery and in-store shopping are available. Most of what you'll find is Scandinavian, but I did spot a lovely *bûche de Noël*—a French Christmas delicacy—there in December. Beware—bakeries can be habit forming, and you may find yourself changing your daily routine just to have an excuse to drop by. Or you can shop online at www.byenbakeri.com or call 206-218-1000.

Everyone has a favorite holiday treat. One of ours is a Christmas *stollen*. It was over a month ago, but I still remember the powdered sugar down the front of my shirt every morning and the heavenly taste of this delightful fruit-studded bread. It was a gift from my son's family—mostly because they love us, but also because Erik would feel guilty about having one for himself while letting us go without.

Whether you believe it's of Swedish or German origin (I know most Scandinavians make it and love it), the *stollen* came from **Larsen's Bakery**, 8000 24th Ave. NW, which is definitely Danish. Larsen's has been in Ballard since 1974, and offers traditional goodies like *lefse*, *kringle* and *kransekage*. Erik ordered online and had the *stollen* delivered, but you can also call for a pickup order or visit the shop (with masks and social distancing, of course). Call 206-782-8285 or check www.larsensbakery.com.

SC Announces

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

The Swedish Club announces 1,199 member households, including 92 Lifetime members and 118 Social members. Our members' names appear in **boldface** in *Swedish Club News*.

Corporate Members

DSC Capital, LLC
 Magnolia Physical Therapy
 Nelson Boyd Attorneys
 Skål Beer Hall
 Vasa Park

Due to privacy concerns, the names of new members are redacted from the online edition of *Swedish Club News*.

Standing Committee Mtgs.

Building & Property: Usu. 4th Wed. (Feb. 24), 5:30 p.m. Contact Kristine for Zoom link.

Finance: Usu. Wed. before Board mtg. (Feb. 24), 4 p.m. Contact Kristine for Zoom link.

Board: 1st Wed. (Feb. 3), 6 p.m. Blue card members welcome by Zoom; contact Kristine for link.

New address? Send your address changes or corrections to Swedish Club, Attn.: Address Change, 1920 Dexter Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98109.

Or you can e-mail to info@swedishclubnw.org.

Let us know if we left out your information by mistake.

Scandinavian Specialties has been providing food and merchandise to the Northwest since 1962. We did some of our online Christmas shopping there this year. Go to scanspecialties.com or call 206-784-7020 for shipping or curbside pickup, or visit the shop in person at 6719 15th Ave. NW in Ballard.

Skål Beer Hall in Ballard has set up a covered pergola, fire pits and heaters for outdoor dining. Takeout is also available, and indoor seating at 25 percent capacity may be allowed after Feb. 1. Located at 5429 Ballard Ave. NW, Skål serves up favorites like popcorn cod, roast lamb ribs, grilled *gjetost* sandwiches and Nordic sausages, along with drinks such as mead, cider and Nordic-inspired beer and wine. Visit skalballard.com or call 206-829-9615.

Stay healthy,

GARY SUND
garysund@ymail.com

Can't Tell You What We Don't Know!

Our members ask us when we're going to open up, when we'll offer Swedish pancakes in Stockholm Hall again and when we'll hold ABBA Night 2021. Well, like everyone else, we're waiting until the governor tells us these activities are OK. Unrestricted events will have to wait for Phase 4, and as of Feb. 1, King County has just entered Phase 2. Once we have firm dates, we'll be more than happy to announce them. Trust us on that! We'll let you know.

Another question we've been asked is if we can stream our films on our website so members could watch from home. We're sorry—we are licensed to show them in the building, but not to stream them out to you. Now that we're in Phase 2, our February film series will screen in our dining hall, with seating at 25 percent capacity, Friday evenings at 5:30 p.m.

Comfort Food...on Wheels!

When you hear the phrase "comfort food," what's the first thing you think of? If you're a Washingtonian, the answer might just be Swedish pancakes.

Bloggers at e-conolight, a maker of LED light bulbs and fixtures, evidently got a little bored with blogging about their product, and decided to investigate what people might be eating while sheltering at home under the energy-saving LED light fixtures in their dining rooms. They started by compiling a list of more than 100 comfort foods; then they checked Google Trends data for each state in the Union to see which recipes—main dish, side dish and dessert—people were searching for most often. When they reported their findings (www.e-conolight.com/blog/post/top-comfort-food-recipes), several states came back with predictable results like grilled cheese and fried chicken. But the number one dish in Minnesota was Swedish meatballs—and here in Washington, we learned that our fellow citizens are yearning above all for Swedish pancakes.

This report somehow became national news—it was picked up by Apple News and Huffington Post, among others—and when we heard it, we were of course pleased... but not at all surprised. After all, the Swedish presence is strong in our state, and the Club's famous Swedish pancake

breakfasts have been on hiatus for almost a year. No wonder people are craving them!

Well, we can no longer in good conscience continue to deprive Washingtonians of their number one comfort food. On Sunday, Feb. 7, the Club will bring back our Swedish pancakes—but we're offering them to go. We've served pancakes to hundreds of people in our Stockholm Hall on the first Sunday of the month for perhaps 25 years, and we're



old hands at it. But this will be the first time we've served them as a takeout meal. Think of it as an experiment to see if this is a viable way to satiate your comfort food cravings during the pandemic. The cost is \$11 each (no kids' plates) for pancakes, ham, lingonberries and whipped cream. It's all **prepaid only**, from 9 a.m.

until 12 noon. Visit swedishclubnw.org to pick your time slot, or call the Club to pay by credit card. Beverages are extra, and you can pay for them on site when you pick up your pancakes. We'll have live musicians to entertain you while you wait.

And, as long as you're coming, donate to our pop-up food drive! Bring an item of canned or other unperishable food, suitable to give to a local food bank, and you'll receive \$1 in Viking Bucks to be spent at the Club for future meals, drinks, membership payments, etc. See you there!

Well Done, Donors!

Thank you to the following individuals who have donated to the Swedish Club. Once again, our members' generosity amazes us. Thank you wholeheartedly!

General Fund

Robert E. Bergstrom	Linda Kaldestad
Kendra Bergstrom	Jean Kincaid
Donn & Gerilyn Bodine	Karen Koon
Ingvar Carlson	Myron & Susan Krueger
Nancy Carrs Roach	Leanne & Paul Larkin
Jeffrey Cook	Jill Larson
Christine DeBoer	Donald Loeb
Mary Emerson	Sharon Lucas
Stefan Enriquez	Janet & Paul MacGregor
Anita Fjortoft	Emily McGough
Joanne Foster	Kristi Nelson Lee
Michael Francisco	Carolina Nilsson & Bill Sanders
Nancy M. Fulton	Ib Odderson
Maria Galvao & Larry Wilson	Mark Olsoe
Carl A. Granquist	Elaine Packard
Russell Heglund	Erik & Ingrid Pearson
Ingrid Hunnewell	Georg & Nina Pedersen
Christine Ingebritsen	Dean Pedersen
Richard & J udith Isaacson	Louise Pihl
Kurt & Perdis Jacobsen	Gary Ramstad
Jane Isakson Lea Foundation	Sonja Richter
Kenneth & Monica Johansson	Thomas Roach
Bruce Johnson	Roy Rubin
Diane Johnson	Marianne Stecher-Hansen
Steven Jones	Andrea Torland
	Eivor Von Hagel
	Karen Westerlund

FRIDAY EVENINGS TO GO

Reserve and pay for your food, including *semla*, by noon on Thursdays at swedishclubnw.org or 206-283-1090. Then pick it up on Fridays at the parking lot entrance between 5 and 6 p.m. Late reservations: add \$5 per entrée and \$2 for *semla*. Music and an outdoor bar will add to the fun at pickup. Filmgoers can take their dinners up to the dining room and eat while watching the Friday film.

Feb. 5

Maple-glazed pork tenderloin with mustard sauce, mashed potatoes, dressed greens and *limpa* bread \$20

Swedish meatballs, gravy, potatoes, vegetables, pickled cucumbers, lingonberry, hardtack and butter \$20

Dessert: *Semla* \$6 Music: Lyle Schaefer

Feb. 12: Valentine Special

Baby lamb chops with chutney, potato-leek gratin, cabbage salad and dark seeded bread \$28

Swedish meatballs, gravy, potatoes, vegetables, pickled cucumbers, lingonberry, hardtack and butter \$20

Dessert: *Semla* \$6 Music: Jon Persson

Feb. 19

Crab cakes with Louie sauce, mashed potatoes, coleslaw, garlic bread \$20

Swedish meatballs, gravy, potatoes, vegetables, pickled cucumbers, lingonberry, hardtack and butter \$20

Dessert: *Semla* \$6 Music: Folk Voice Band

Feb. 26

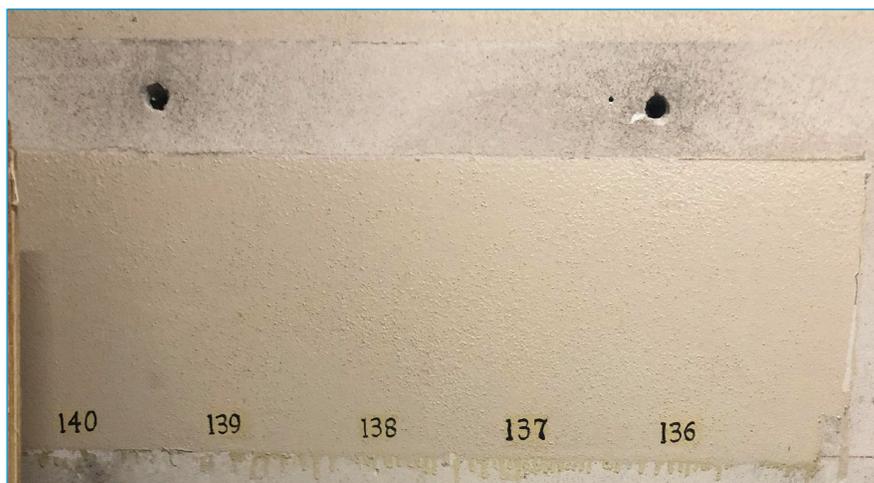
Seafood plate with smoked salmon, herring shot, smoked whitefish, jumbo shrimp, little boiled potatoes, pickled beets, cucumber and *limpa* bread \$20

Swedish meatballs, gravy, potatoes, vegetables, pickled cucumbers, lingonberry, hardtack and butter \$20

Dessert: *Semla* \$6 Music: Skandia Kapell

Recognize This?

Renovations at the Swedish Club have unearthed a piece of history! When we discovered this, we remembered something about how the Club was used in the past. The first person who contacts us and can name the spot where this photo was taken (hint: it's somewhere on the lobby floor) and how the numbers were used will get two free tickets to a Swedish pancake breakfast! Call 206-283-1090 or e-mail kristine@swedishclubnw.org. Happy sleuthing!



Coming Events at the Swedish Club

Fridays, Starting Feb. 5. **Wonderful Winter Magic Film Series.**

This four-week film series begins with *The Snow Queen*. Family film full of the traditions and charm of days of old. 5:30 p.m. \$5 donation. Shown in our upstairs dining room. Order a takeout dinner and eat while you watch!

Friday, Feb. 5. To-Go Dinner.

Meatballs or maple-glazed pork tenderloin with mustard sauce, mashed potatoes, dressed greens and *limpa* bread. Dinners are \$20 for each entrée and \$6 for *semlor*. Purchase by Thursday noon at swedishclubnw.org or call us at 206-283-1090. Pickup is 5 to 6 p.m. on Friday. During takeout, enjoy an outdoor bar and music by Lyle Schaefer.

Sunday, Feb. 7. **Swedish Pancakes to Go.**

We've said that Swedish pancake breakfasts at the Club will be one of the last events we bring back, due to their notorious popularity and the general impossibility of social distancing. That won't stop us from offering them for takeout, however! **Prepaid only.** \$11. 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Visit swedishclubnw.org to order your breakfast and schedule your time slot. Enjoy music by our regular pancake breakfast musicians while you wait. Bring canned or unperishable food for our food drive, and receive \$1 in Viking Bucks to be spent at the Club for future meals, drinks, membership payments, etc.

Wednesday, Feb. 10. Kvinnor Kan Book Club.
The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes. In Depression-era Kentucky, five women deliver books as part of Eleanor Roosevelt's new traveling library. 5 p.m. March's book is *Transcendent Kingdom* by Yaa Gyasi. Drop-ins welcome. For Zoom link, contact kristine@swedishclubnw.org.

Friday, Feb. 12. **Wonderful Winter Magic Film Series.**

The Polar Bear King. Family film about a polar bear who sets out to find a wife who loves him. 5:30 p.m. \$5 donation. Order a takeout dinner and eat while you watch!

Friday, Feb. 12. **Valentine To-Go Dinner.**

For Valentine's Day, it's baby lamb chops with chutney, potato-leek gratin, cabbage salad and dark seeded bread (\$28) or meatballs (\$20) and *semlor* (\$6). Purchase by Thursday noon at swedishclubnw.org or call us at 206-283-1090. Pickup is 5 to 6 p.m. on Friday. During takeout, enjoy an outdoor bar and music by Jon Persson.

Tuesdays, Feb. 16–Mar. 16. **Beginning Weaving Class.**

"From yarn to finished cloth." Learn from experienced instructor Lois Gaylord. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Five sessions: \$136 for blue card members and \$165 for non-members. Limited enrollment due to the pandemic. Call the Club and prepay.

Wednesday, Feb. 17. Members & Friends Dinner.

Ken Workman, a descendant of Chief Seattle, will tell us about the seven hills of Seattle and how the Duwamish people have lived here for 10,000 years. We'll meet indoors, socially distanced, per Phase 2 guidelines. Chef Christine will make cabbage rolls, potatoes, pickled beets and dressed greens, and pumpkin roll with whipped cream for dessert. RSVP by Tuesday noon, Feb. 16, to rsvp@swedishclubnw.org or 206-283-1090. \$22. Late RSVPs and walk-ins \$25. Dinner 6:30 p.m., program around 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 19. **Wonderful Winter Magic Film Series.**

Frozen II. Family film will keep you spellbound with music and animation. 5:30 p.m. \$5 donation. Order a takeout dinner and eat while you watch!

Friday, Feb. 19. To-Go Dinner.

Tonight it's meatballs or crab cakes with Louie sauce, mashed potatoes, coleslaw and garlic bread. Dinners are \$20 for each entrée and \$6 for *semlor*. Purchase by Thursday noon at swedishclubnw.org or call us at 206-283-1090. Pickup is 5 to 6 p.m. on Friday. During takeout, enjoy an outdoor bar and music by Folk Voice Band.

Friday, Feb. 26. **Wonderful Winter Magic Film Series.**

Sissel: Northern Lights. A concert by Norway's finest songbird, Sissel Kyrkjebø, and opera star José Carreras, filmed in the historical and beautiful city of Røros. 5:30 p.m. \$5 donation. Order a takeout dinner and eat while you watch!

Friday, Feb. 26. To-Go Dinner.

Enjoy meatballs or a seafood plate with smoked salmon, a herring shot, smoked whitefish and jumbo shrimp, along with little boiled potatoes, pickled beets, cucumber and *limpa* bread. \$20 for each entrée and \$6 for *semlor*. Purchase by Thursday noon at swedishclubnw.org or call us at 206-283-1090. Pickup is 5 to 6 p.m. on Friday. During takeout, enjoy an outdoor bar and music by Skandia Kapell.

All future events subject to COVID-19 restrictions for Seattle and King County.