



Swedish Center News

Issue No. 508

June 2008

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.

Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, June 1, 2008

8:00 am - 1:30 pm

**LIVE SCANDINAVIAN
FOLK MUSIC**

*Speldosan, Folk Voice Band,
Nordic Reflections*

Adults: \$7.00

SCC members: \$6.00

Children: 5-12 \$4.00

Children under: 4 free

**NEXT PANCAKE BREAKFAST
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2008**

Swedish Male Chorus to Perform at SCC

Sveriges Manskör (Sweden's Male Chorus) under the direction of Lennart Johansson will be featured at the convention of the American Union of Swedish Singers (AUSS) in Portland, Oregon, in early July. The AUSS was formed in 1892 and includes 31 choruses from Seattle to St. Petersburg, Florida. The chorus's appearance in Portland will be followed by performances at First Baptist Church in Olympia and the Swedish Cultural Center in Seattle. The 50 singers will perform some of Lennart's original compositions as well as traditional songs from well-known Scandinavian composers.

Lennart Johansson directs seven musical groups in Luleå, in northern Sweden. The groups include church choirs, male and mixed choruses, a barbershop group and a gospel group. He has participated in previous AUSS conventions and has done singers' workshops in Minneapolis and Chicago as well as in Europe.

Their only performance in Seattle will be at the Swedish Cultural Center at 7 pm on Tuesday, July 8. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted. We hope you will be there.

Raffle News!

Come to our Swedish National Day Celebration on June 6 to find out if you're a lucky raffle winner! There are three great prizes: \$1000 Best Buy shopping spree; \$500 Fred Meyer/QFC shopping spree; or pancake breakfast for two for a year. We will continue to sell tickets up to the drawing so there's still time to take a chance! If you can't be with us, please return your ticket stubs and money or any unsold tickets to the Center's office as soon as possible.

Tack så mycket!

You know the saying: "We get by with a little help from our friends." At the Swedish Cultural Center, it's often a big help that we need. Thank you to the following for your generous donation of time and energy: our pancake volunteers (too many to list), our office volunteers (who find themselves doing everything from checking member lists to cleaning the kitchen), the performers at all our events, our new Web site volunteer Connie Blair, and one special local business, "All the King's Flags" in Ballard. Part of our June 6 celebration involves flags and we're very thankful for their help.

Swedish Cultural Center

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www.swedishculturalcenter.org

Office Hours

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

Board of Directors

| | |
|----------------|------------------|
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| Secretary | Syrene Forsman |
| Treasurer | Don Wahlquist |
| VP/Properties | Paul Norlen |
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| | Erik Pihl |
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Cultural Director Kristine Leander

Vännerna

| | |
|------------|-----------------------|
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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 articles into the office or fax to: 206-283-2970. You may also email articles to : kristine@swedishculturalcenter.org.

President's Message

If you have been following the recent activity at the Swedish Cultural Center, you have probably heard about our various committees. In the past, we formed committees for projects when the need arose, but last year, the Board developed a series of standing committees to which we routinely delegate some responsibilities.

We decided this would help us move forward on our many ideas and ambitions more effectively than the entire Board belaboring the details of every decision and project. Each committee has at least one Board member and ideally a few other Swedish Cultural Center members with an interest or expertise in the topic. The Executive Director and Cultural Director also work directly with the committees.

So far, these committees consist mostly of Board members. The committees are learning to work together with the Board and have made some good progress on many fronts. Now, most the committees are ready for increased participation from you, the loyal members of our organization. If you appreciate the way we are revitalizing the Swedish Cultural Center and have interests or skills you're willing to put to use, I encourage you to join one of the following committees. I am listing just a few project examples to give you ideas of how you might contribute.

Building mission: manage and enhance the potential of our facility (making Swedish design choices whenever possible). Examples: analyze, prioritize and plan on the many needed facility improvements; refurbish the Crown Room Lounge.

Commercial mission: develop the revenue generating potential of our facility. Examples: sell Swedish food items at pancake breakfasts; plan a potential future gift shop.

Décor & Exhibits mission: enhance interior design to create a facility with a total Swedish feel; manage exhibits of Swedish art and culture. Examples: make improvements to our main lobby and reception area, coordinate art display, and help select furnishings.

Finance & Audit mission: oversee the Center's budget preparation, financial reporting, risk management, insurance, taxes, and compliance with legal regulatory requirements. Examples: create an annual report for donors, hire an auditor.

Fundraising & Development mission: increase the amount of donations received by the Center. Examples: manage the upcoming raffle on Swedish National Day and the annual auction. (Now is a perfect time to join the committee for next February's auction!)

Library/Education/Scholarships mission: promote education and connections to Sweden. Examples: create genealogical research opportunities at the Center; advise board on annual scholarship program

Cont'd on Page 6

Executive Director's notes

June's pancake breakfast will be the last one until September, so come early to get a good seat. I think this breakfast will be especially busy—partly as a result of our participation in the 17th of May parade in Ballard. We were among the many organizations taking part, and it was fun to stroll down 24th NW to the cheers of the onlookers. (I think everyone likes Swedish pancakes.) Last month we served over 850 guests, thanks to the hard work of our volunteers. Thank you! It wouldn't work without you. Reminder: more than just a great time, the breakfast is also a great fund-raiser, so thanks again.

I wish to thank Birgit Amundson, Jon Halgren, Berit Lehner, and Tom Swim for their help in the office. I still have two Thursdays and three Fridays a month to cover. If you have an interest in helping, please call me. Do you remember that spring cleaning I talked about last month? Well, we are going to carry it over this month since we didn't get it all accomplished. My new phone number is 206-283-1078. You may recognize it as one we had before. If not, you'll recognize the voice that answers.

Well that's it for this month; hope to see you in the Center soon.

R.W. Clay
Executive Director
rw@swedishculturalcenter.org

Cultural Director's Notes

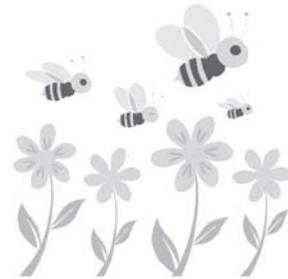
Welcome to all the new members who are reading our newsletter for the first time. We're delighted with the steady stream of new members. If you're new, welcome aboard!

One of the best ways to increase our membership, we've discovered, is by having fun together. If you missed the *Gluntarne* Duet Concert this past month, you missed a very fun event. Gunnar Damstrom, Sven Axter, and their accompanist Maria Männistö performed with talent and charm. The lively Swedish songs celebrating the coming of spring and the musical introduction by the Svea Male Chorus was "wonderfully, beautifully, totally Swedish" in the words of one guest. A hearty thank you to our three performers, their choreographer and stage hands, and the Svea Male Chorus. We all enjoyed it.

You are cordially invited to all the activities coming up in June. Our Swedish National Day dinner on June 6 will be a wonderful event with an announcement by the Swedish Consul of Seattle's "Swede of the Year", drawing of our raffle winners, entertainment by the children of the Swedish School and folkdancers from Nordiska, a menu straight from the King's chef in Stockholm, and singing by the Swedish Women's and Svea Male Choruses. The cost is \$23 and we appreciate your paid reservation in advance.

Cont'd on Page 6

Members' Dinner



WEDNESDAY,
June 11, 2008

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

PROGRAM:

Eric Nelson, new
Executive Director of
Nordic Heritage Museum

DINNER MENU:

Smorgasalad
Smörgåssallad

Mustard Chicken with
Dill Cream Sauce
Senapskyckling med dillsås

Braised red cabbage
Bräserad rödkål

Jarlsberg Pasta Primavera
*Pasta primavera med
Jarlsberg ost*

Lingonberry Cake
Lingonkaka

For reservations, please call
206-283-1090, or e-mail
rw@swedishculturalcenter.org

Swedish readers wanted!

Do you like to read Swedish? The Center's book club invites you to join this fall, when we'll be reading "Kalla det vad fan du vill" by Marjaneh Bakhtiari. It's the story of a family from Iran who move to Sweden. Randy Nelson will order copies for everyone, so please contact him if you'd like to read the book. We meet at 5 pm, before the Members' Meeting (the second Wednesday of the month) and we invite you to join us! Contact Randy to order the book or for more information: call 206-937-0441 or email to: rnelson900@aol.com.

4th of July Celebration!

4th of July bash with the best view on Lake Union. Buffet feast with hamburgers, hot dogs, fried chicken, salads, and peach cobbler. Professional DJ with dancing and karaoke! Games and prizes for kids and adults. Late night ice cream while we watch the traffic melt away. Free parking. Doors open at 6:30. Dinner at 7:00. Dinner and entertainment package \$33. Pre-paid reservations: 206-523-9570.

The Center's new genealogist

The Swedish Cultural Center is pleased to offer free genealogy services to our members on two afternoons a month. Our volunteer is Diana Erickson, who has been actively doing genealogy in the Norwegian-American community. She's pictured here with the late Norm Maleng and his wife Judy. The Malengs planned a trip to Norway to visit his relatives. After Diana met them and heard of their plans, she went to work. Literally overnight she found his genealogical history and extended family living in Norway. Cultural Director Kristine Leander was also delighted with the Swedish information Diana found for her in one afternoon. Kristine discovered that many of her ancestors had similar names to the names she and her brothers had chosen for their children. "It touched me to find that as far back as there were records, we have Swedish ancestors named Carolina, Sven, Lisa, Lars, Anna, Kristina, and Johan—very similar to the names in our family's next generation." To sign up for genealogy time with Diana in the Center's library either the first or third Thursday of every month, call 206-283-1090 or e-mail kristine@swedishculturalcenter.org.

Editor's Note: . After this article was written, we received visitors to the Center: Britt Lagnetoft and Ragnar Ohlson, who are genealogists from Sweden. They are offering their professional genealogy services to families in Seattle. For more information, e-mail them at Elizabeth_research@yahoo.se.



The Malengs, Judy and Norm, are pictured here with the SCC's new genealogist, Diana Erickson, on the right. Before Norm's untimely death in 2007, Diana did extensive research on his family in Scandinavia.

Cultural Director

(Cont'd from page 3)

You are warmly invited to all the other events we've planned for you this month: our friendship group *Vännerna* is welcoming new members at their first Tuesday of the month meeting on June 3; the official presentation meal for the prize-winning "Seattle's Best Meatballs" by As You Like It catering is Saturday, June 14; our old-fashioned *Kaffe Rep* is at 1 pm on the third Wednesday, June 18; Young Nordics, a Nordic Heritage Museum-based group of young adults, are joining us here on June 20 for our third Friday Happy Hour; and the Three Nordic Tenors are singing at the Nordic Heritage Museum for a concert we're helping to sponsor on Tuesday, June 24. It's a full month, and we hope to see you here.

Kristine Leander
Cultural Director

kristine@swedishculturalcenter.org

President Message

(Cont'd from page 2)

to the UW; open the Center's library to the public; plan Swedish language classes and Swedish language book club.

Promotion/Marketing Mission: promote the Swedish Cultural Center and increase membership and participation in events. Examples: produce brochures, improve Web site and outreach to new members.

Personnel Mission: make SCC a great place to work, either as staff or volunteers. Examples: refine job descriptions; evaluate personnel.

Programs Mission: expand our programs to bring in new members and encourage attendance by current members. Examples: develop annual events (Swedish National Day, Lucia); organize occasional lecture series; plan programs for monthly membership meetings.

Participating in a committee is the perfect way to become better acquainted with your organization and meet fellow members. Better yet, by getting involved you can have an influence, helping to shape the Swedish Cultural Center of the future, and have fun doing it! Contact the office or me to join or inquire about a committee, or e-mail one of us: kristine@swedishculturalcenter.org or klarsson@earthlink.net.

Karl Larsson
President

klarsson@earthlink.net



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 till closing.

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

Happy Hour dates for this month:

June 6
June 20

SCANDINAVIAN HOUR



KKNW 1150 AM

Host 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

The Swedish Cultural Center announces 568 member households including these new members:

New Members

Carol Axelson Costello &
Leo B. Costello

Lori Elken

Sarah Hershman

Judy Patterson &

Robert Walsh

Lori Ann & Ulf Reinhall

Jeannet Svensk Li, Mark Li,

Nadja Svensk Li and

Milla Svensk Li

Erland Unruh

Memorials

In memory of Dorothy

Warne: Kari Knudsen

In memory of Ron

Olsen: Vännerna

Donations

Carol Axelson Costello, Dana Harmon, Kari Knudsen

Changing address?

Send your address changes or corrections to: Swedish Cultural Center, Attn: Address Change, 1920 Dexter Ave. N., Seattle WA 98119, or e-mail info@swedishculturalcenter.org.

“Films from Finland” continues Kaurismäki Trilogy

Aki Kaurismäki is unquestionably Finland’s best-known director internationally and some would argue that his best work is in a trilogy of films about being down-and-out in Finland. The first of these three films, *Kauas pilvet karkaavat* (Drifting Clouds) was shown as the March selection in “Films from Finland.” Next up, on June 25 at 7:30 p.m., is the second – *Mies vailla menisyyttä* (Man without a Past).

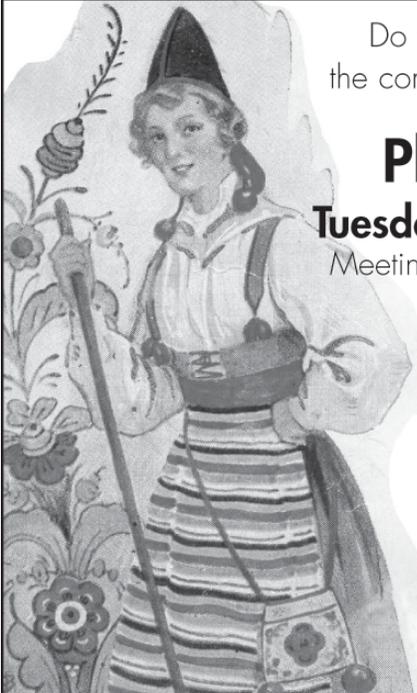
As its title suggests, “Man without a Past” is the story of a stranger (Markku Peltola), newly arrived in Helsinki from elsewhere in Finland, who loses his memory after being violently attacked without provocation. In his amnesic state, he is compelled to grapple with the practical problems of finding a place to live, a job, and people he can trust.

“Man without a Past” will be shown in Finnish, with English subtitles. Running time is 97 minutes, and the Finnish rating is K-7 (PG 13 in the US). A \$5.00 donation is requested at the door.

“Films from Finland” is a program of Finlandia Foundation Seattle Chapter. The series continues at the Swedish Cultural Center on the fourth Wednesday of every month, with the exception of July and August. For a full calendar of films, contact FFSC@finns.org.

Vännerna

(Friends)



Do you like to sew, or enjoy the company of those who do?

Please join us.
Tuesday, June 3, 10 a.m.
Meetings resume in September.

You're invited to join our friendship group that gets together to do handwork and projects that support the Swedish Cultural Center.

For more information contact
206-283-1090 or
info@swedishculturalcenter.org

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.

Tourism: Sweden is still an attractive travel destination. During the first quarter, the number of “guest nights” increased by 21 percent compared to the same period last year. There are mostly active families with children, well-to-do big city dwellers and nature loving Germans.

New signs: Gender-conscious Sweden plans to make room for women on its crosswalk signs. The new sign will show a woman instead of a man crossing the street, giving more gender balance to Swedish road signs according to Enterprise Ministry spokesperson Kenneth Hultgren.

Proposals: The Norwegian government has received a proposal from SAAB Aircraft for the purchase of 49 Gripen, all purpose jet aircraft. The proposal is in competition with Lockheed Martin’s proposal for their “fifth generation combat aircraft” F-35. Another proposal for 126 Gripen has also been submitted to the Indian government.

Royal celebration: Music, cheers, hurrahs and flowers on King Carl Gustaf’s 62nd birthday that was celebrated in bright sunshine at the outer courtyard of the Royal Castle. A large crowd were packed together to get a glimpse of the king and his family. As usual for this celebration, small children stood in line to greet him and give him flowers.

Gem: A farmer in Kiaby, west of Bromölla, made a surprise discovery in his field. Among the potatoes, he found a silver bracelet from the Viking age. Archeologists were called to the site and they found a total of 95 objects, the oldest dated 400 to 600 A.D.

Submitted by,
Gunnar Wallin

189 years of song

The Swedish Women’s Chorus honored four long-time members at its concert on Saturday, April 19. Ellen Anderson, Dorothy May Johnson, Rachel Osterlof and Elna Ryan represent about 189 years of dedication to the tradition of Swedish choral music. Rachel and Dorothy May retired from singing about two years ago but still support by attending performances. Ellen and Elna are still singing with the group. Elna, with 57 years of singing, is a charter member of the chorus which began in 1951. They were honored for their dedication and significant contributions.

Three Crowns, Three Dinners

Sweden’s National Day, June 6

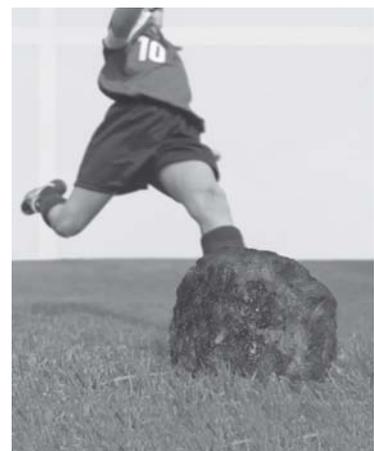
A program and dinner fit for a King! Music, raffle drawing and announcement of “Swede of the Year.” Social hour 6:30, program 7, dinner 7:30. \$23. RSVP: 206-283-1090

Member’s Dinner, June 11

Dinner 6:30. \$15. RSVP: 206-283-1090.

Celebrate Best Meatball, June 14

We had a contest. Now we need to celebrate recipe winners Birgitta & Gunnar Wallin and taste Seattle’s Best Swedish Meatballs. We’ll feast on appetizers, salads, mashed potatoes, meatballs, and cold strawberry soup. \$30 adults; \$28 seniors. RSVP: 206-523-9570.



Swedish Center Calendar - June 2008

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|--------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|----------|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| | | | | | | 1 Pancake Breakfast 8:00 am SSA Children's Swedish School |
| 2 | 3 SWC/SMC Rehearse | 4 SCC Board Meeting 5:30 pm | 5 | 6 Swedish National Day Nordic Happy Hour | 7 | 8 SSA Children's Swedish School |
| 9 | 10 | 11 Membership Dinner Meeting 6:00 pm | 12 | 13 | 14 Seattle's Best Meatball Dinner | 15 |
| 16 | 17 SWC/SMC Rehearse | 18 Kafferep At SCC 1pm | 19 | 20 Nordic Happy Hour | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 SWC/SMC Rehearse | 25 Finnish Film Series | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | | | | | | |

Swedish Center Calendar - July 2008

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|--------|---|---------------------------------|----------|------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|
| | 1 Order of Runeberg Concert & Dance | 2 SCC Board Meeting | 3 | 4 Fourth of July Party | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 Swedish Chorus Concert with Lennart Johansson, Director | 9 SCC Membership Dinner Meeting | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 SSA Children's Swedish School |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 Nordic Happy Hour | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |