



# Swedish Center News

Issue No. 504

February 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.

**SCC AUCTION:  
SATURDAY,  
FEBRUARY 9, 2008**

## Pancake Breakfast

**Sunday, February 3, 2008  
8:00 am - 1:30 pm**

### LIVE SCANDINAVIAN FOLK MUSIC

*Richard Svensson & Bjarne  
Jacobsen, Spelmanslag,  
The Norsemen*

Adults \$7.00  
SCC members: \$6.00  
Children 5-12 \$4.00  
Children under 4 free

## It's time! SCC Auction arrives February 9

By now you should have received an invitation to the Swedish Cultural Center *Mardi Gras* Auction Dinner Party, coming up on Saturday, February 9. This event, featuring complimentary *välkomstdrink* (welcome cocktail) and hors d'oeuvres, entertainment, dinner, and a silent and live auction, should be even more fun than last year's auction!

Tickets are \$45 if purchased by February 1; after that date tickets are \$50. If you don't have an RSVP card, you can call the Center office at (206) 283-1090 or email to [swedishcc@gmail.com](mailto:swedishcc@gmail.com).

Proceeds of the auction benefit the Swedish Cultural Center scholarship awards and cultural enrichment programs.

## Annual Exchange with Leif Erikson Lodge on February 16

The Leif Erikson Lodge of the Sons of Norway will host the annual exchange between the Lodge and Swedish Cultural Center. This year's event will be held on Saturday, February 16, starting at 6:00 p.m.

The date was chosen to coincide with the visit to Seattle of Grannar, a talented trio from Sweden. This dynamic group "wows their audiences with their technical expertise, innovative arrangements, and showmanship."

Please remember that the exchange is **free** for SCC members and includes dinner and dancing. Please make your reservation by calling the office at (206) 283-1090. Leif Erikson Lodge is located at 2245 N.W. 57th St. in downtown Ballard.

This should be an enjoyable evening of good food, music and camaraderie!

Grannar will also be performing at a Skandia dance party on Friday, February 15, at the Cedar Valley Grange, as well as hosting a music workshop on Saturday, February 16 at 10:30 a.m. at the Nordic Heritage Museum. For more information about those two events, please contact Skandia Folkdance Society's information line at (206) 784-7470.

## 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

Immediate  
Past President Dr. Gene Nystrom

### Center Operations

Executive	
Director	R.W. Clay
Administrative	
Support	Desiree Miglino

### Vännerna

Chair	Maggie Berthiaume
Vice-chair	June Anderson Evanoff
Secretary	Bonnie Orr
Treasurer	Rachel Osterlof
Sewing	Jean Wirch

### 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

Invitations to the Swedish Cultural Center's February 9 auction to support the scholarship program and cultural programs at the Swedish Cultural Center have been sent. This year's theme is Mardi Gras. Last year's auction raised \$16,000 and we hope to raise more this year.

Members who attended the January Membership Meeting had the opportunity to meet this year's auctioneer, Jerry Toner, and see his auction demonstration. Board member Pam Madden, along with the rest of the auction committee, has been working hard to obtain donations from businesses and assemble a wide selection of items for both the silent and live auctions.

Like last year, the money raised from the auction will go towards the scholarship program and other activities at the Center. Board members Paul Norlen and Randy Nelson have worked with the Department of Scandinavian Studies at the University of Washington on a selection system for the scholarships. This year two scholarships will be awarded for one quarter of undergraduate tuition for the coming academic year.

Though we are now getting close to the date of the auction, it is not too late to get involved. Volunteers are needed on the night of the event and donations are still being accepted. And one of the best ways to support the auction and the scholarship program is to attend the event – which should be a lot of fun besides, with good food and music by a jazz trio from the award-winning Garfield High School music program.

Brandon Benson



## Children's Film Festival Features Swedish Films

The 2008 edition of the Children's Film Festival Seattle features films from Sweden and continues through February 3 at Northwest Film Forum. Below is the schedule of Swedish films in February (the complete schedule can be found at [www.nwfilmforum.org/childrensfilmfest/schedule.htm](http://www.nwfilmforum.org/childrensfilmfest/schedule.htm)):

Saturday, February 2, 5:00 p.m. *From the Heart of Sweden: Animation with a Global Reach* (69 minutes)

Sunday, February 3, 11:00 a.m. Program of short films including *New Adventures with Jack and Pedro: Papa Pedro/Papa Jack* (Steffan Erlandsson, Anna Hansson).

Sunday, February 3 1:30 p.m. *Desmond and the Swamp Barbarian*, directed by Magnus Carlsson (2006, 68 minutes). (See this one after the pancake breakfast!)

All films are shown at Northwest Film Forum, 1515 12th Avenue, Seattle on Capitol Hill.

## Director's notes

At the time of deadline for this issue, the Director was experiencing poor health and unable to provide info. R.W. extends apologies and regards to all and we look forward to the return of his column next month.

## Election of 2008 Officers and Board of Directors

In accordance with the bylaws of the Swedish Cultural Center, the annual election of candidates for the Board of Directors and Officers by the Members, will be held at the April 9th membership meeting. A nominating committee will nominate at least one candidate for each office. The names of these candidates will be listed in the next issue of the Swedish Center News.

If you have any interest in serving the Center as a board member or if you know someone who may be interested, please let us know as soon as possible by calling the Center at (206) 283-1090. Also, as stated in the bylaws, a quorum of fifty (50) members is required for the election – so please be sure to attend the April 9th membership meeting!

## Summer Hiking Tour in Sweden and Norway

For a different way to see Sweden and Norway – a hiking tour following in the footsteps of 18th Century Swedish naturalist Carl Linnæus – consider a two-week tour in the summer of 2008 being organized by Seminars International. Longtime Gustavus Adolphus College professor (and University of Washington graduate) Roland Thorstensson will lead the tour, together with two Gustavus alumni, Daniel Lundberg (Class of 1998) and Julia Paraskova (Class of 1999) who now live in Sweden. The tour, scheduled for July 20 to August 3, will begin in Uppsala and then head north to areas visited and described by Linnæus on a journey in 1732.

A native of Småland (like Linnæus), Professor Thorstensson has led many groups of visiting Swedes on tours of the Upper Midwest, and has traveled extensively in northern Sweden and Norway (sometimes on cross-country skis). Most recently he retraced Linnæus's travels together with nature photographer Anders Björling in the summer of 2006.

This is sure to be a memorable experience. For more details about the tour and to receive a brochure, please visit the Seminars International web site at [www.semint.com](http://www.semint.com).

## Membership Dinner



WEDNESDAY,  
February 13, 2008

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

### PROGRAM:

Author Kim Bakke will discuss her book *Miss Alcott's E-mail* (with surprising information about the author of *Little Women*)

### DINNER MENU:

Winter green salad with julienne vegetables and lingonberry vinaigrette *Vintrig grönsallad med tunt strimlade grönsaker och lingonvinägrettsås*

Braised lamb shanks  
*Brynta lammvader*

Roasted garlic mashed potatoes *Potatismos med brynt vitlök*

Steamed vegetables  
*Kokta grönsaker*

Bread pudding  
*Brödpudding*

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

## Scandinavian Folkdance Saturday February 23

Find out why Great-grandpa had so much fun dancing! Come enjoy some Scandinavian old-time dancing at the Swedish Cultural Center — a bit of Waltz, a bit of classic Hambo.

Let the live music of talented Skandia Spelmanslag spring into your ears and find its way, infectiously, through to your toes.

The fun on this evening begins at 8:00 p.m.. Since these days it is possible you do not personally know the steps of these classics, you can try the free dance lesson, starting at 7:30 p.m.

The Swedish Cultural Center is located at 1920 Dexter North, Seattle (East side of Queen Anne Hill, downhill from Aurora Avenue).

For more information, feel free to send an e-mail to: [pat@folkdancing.com](mailto:pat@folkdancing.com).

## 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.

## SCC Film Series Presents Contemporary Classic

The SCC Film Series continues in its new Wednesday time slot on February 20 at 7:30 p.m. with *En vandring i solen* (A Walk in the Sun). Directed by Hans Dahlberg and based on a book by popular Swedish author Stig Claesson, the film stars Gösta Ekman in one of his choicest roles, along with Margareta Krook, Sif Ruud, and Inger Lisa Rypdal.

Ekman plays mildly alcoholic sports writer Tore Andersson, who escapes from a failed relationship to Cyprus for a vacation. He drinks too hard, gets put in an insane asylum for awhile, returns to civilization dressed in a fur coat, and falls in love with the Norwegian travel guide. But fate has something else in store for him. This emotionally charged film features lush photography, comedy, tragedy — and several walks in the sun.

The film is 100 minutes long and is in Swedish with English subtitles. Refreshments will be served. For more information, please contact film host Randy Nelson at (206) 768-6405 or by email at [rnelson900@aol.com](mailto:rnelson900@aol.com).

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## SCC Auction 2008: Deadlines Draw Near

Our Mardi Gras Auction Dinner Party is only days away! There are some exciting trips in the live auctions and something for everyone in the silent auctions. Call the office if you haven't sent in your RSVP card yet. We want you at the party!

The Swedish Cultural Center thanks the following donors for their gifts to our Mardi Gras Auction (updated through 1/15/2008):

Hotel Ändra, Pacific Science Center, Aquavit Restaurant, Seattle Art Museum, Museum of Flight, Ivar's/Kidd Valley, Dukes Chowder House, Cascade Acupuncture & Herbal Medicine, The Scandinavian Hour, The Clog Factory, All Vovo, Bennett's Pure Food Bistro, Interbay Golf Center, Cutter's BayHouse, Sunset Bowl, SAS, Fred Meyer Ballard, King 5 Television, Swanson's, Southwest Airlines, Cutter & Buck, Seattle Mariners, The 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Theatre, Leif Erikson International Foundation, Ponti's Restaurant, Museum of Glass, Scandinavian Bakery, Nielsen's Bakery, QFC Interbay, Transia, KSER Radio, Me 'N Mom's, NW Spaces, As You Like It, Seattle Skandia Spelmanslag, Skandia Folkdance, Holland America Line, Family Fun Center, Palomino Restaurant, Northwest Outdoor Center, Wahlquist Construction, High Maintenance, Dimitrius' Jazz Alley, Anthony's Restaurants, Seattle Symphony, Trader Joe's.

Byron & Jessiemai Strange, Dorothy Wicklund, E.M. Anderson, Dennis Wermcrantz, Henning A. Johnson, Harry Christensen, Charles Shannon, Eric & Ingrid Pearson, David Barker, John Purvis, Doug Warne, Dick & Betty Lyons, John & Kristia Higgins, Syrene Forsman, Jeffrey Scott & Debra Kalin, Margaret Mechaley, Birgit Amundson, Rolf Hokansson, Rebecka Helen Wilson, Barbro & Eric Wangsten, Pam & Vince Madden, Karin Abraham, Karin Gustafson, RW Clay, Vivi Anne Lindback, Mark Wahlquist, Diana Nelson, Beverly Sperry, Maxine Bratvold, Karen Pauley, Sue Gregor, Desiree Omdal, Randy Hendrickson, Brandon Benson, Garrett Benson, Patti Benson, Dana Benson, Ulla Foster, Paul Norlen, Kristine Leander, Paul & Ellen Duernberger, Jim & Jane Lea, Judy Patterson, Jerry Walsh

## Landmark Status for Ballard Building?

Were you in Seattle when the Manning's building at the intersection of Market Street and 15th Avenue N.W. was built? If so, you remember that the architecture was reminiscent of a Viking longhouse to honor the area's Nordic heritage. Over the years, much has happened. The building was threatened with demolition and saved by community support, and also converted into a Denny's restaurant. The city's landmark board has voted to consider this "gateway to Ballard" for landmark status and Denny's has said that they would like to have a restaurant there. If you would like to learn how to make your voice heard on the future of the Manning's building, e-mail Alan Michelson at savemannings@yahoo.com.



### CROWN ROOM

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### 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:**

February 1  
February 15

### 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

None reported

### Deceased

Thomas Hart, Harfield M. Olsen

### Memorials

None reported

### Donations

Karin Bean, Micheal Boyd, Carla & Lowell Burgarson, Ivar Dahlof, Betty Dunbar, Jane & Clinton Ferrell, Anita Fjortoft, Kay & Thomas Hutchinson, Ernst & Linda Jensen, Howard Johnson, Samuel Jones, Marcia Knadle, LeRoy & Berit Lehner, Carl Lind, Betty Lindmark, Pam & Vince Madden, Jeanne Monroe, Bjorn Murti, Howard Myers, Margot Peart, Mrs. Alice Senter, Sonja Shaffer, Florita Skov, Kenneth Solders, David Storm, Kirk Sunberg, Nancy Thilberg, Gunnar Wallin, Dorothy Wicklund, Marie Zobrist

### Auction Donations

Tim Andersen  
Bob & Connie Blair  
Karin Gustafson  
Vivi-Anne Lindback  
Erik Olson

## We shine the spotlight on current SCC Board members

### **Randy Nelson, SCC Board member**

Randy Nelson is a native of Montana. His grandparents, including Emma Thorén from Hälsingland, were immigrants from Denmark, Norway, and Sweden. Randy holds an MA in Scandinavian Languages and Literature from the University of Washington and is a faculty member at South Seattle Community College. He lives in West Seattle with his wife Karen, who is an immunologist and plays the *nyckelharpa*. They have two grown children, Siri and Peder, who are members of the Swedish Cultural Center. Randy has lived in Sweden where he studied photography at the University of Lund and worked at the Malmö Public Library.



Randy serves on the Library/Education/Scholarship Committee.

Teaching Swedish and showing monthly films at the SCC helps keep his knowledge of Sweden current. Randy manages to visit Sweden about every other year. He is working to organize the Center's library, where the Board plans to launch a genealogy service and collection. Randy is also involved in organizing a Swedish book club at SCC, to begin in January. He enjoys hiking, swimming, skiing, and working on old Saabs.

## “Producing Adults” is Next Up in “Films from Finland”

The monthly “Films from Finland” series continues on February 27 at 7:30 p.m. in the Swedish Cultural Center with “Lapsia ja aikuisia” (Producing Adults) – a comedy-drama about the joys and sorrows of producing children.

This 2004 film, literally translated as “Children and Adults,” focuses on a superficially happy couple divided over the issue of whether or not to have a child.

“Lapsia ja aikuisia” marks the directorial debut of Akseli Salmenperä, whose 2007 film “Miehen työ” (A Man's Work) generated much critical buzz and controversy in its depiction of male prostitution. Salmenperä received a Jussi nomination for his first work – one of eight nominations received by the film. It was also Finland's official entry in the Best Foreign Film category for Academy Award.

“Lapsia ja aikuisia” is in Finnish, with English subtitles. It carries a rating of K-11, roughly the equivalent of a strong PG-13. Running time is 102 minutes. A \$5.00 donation is requested at the door.

“Films from Finland” is sponsored by Finlandia Foundation Seattle Chapter. Films in the series are shown on the fourth Wednesday of each month, with the exception of July and August. For a complete 2008 schedule of films, visit the FFSC website at [FFSC@finns.org](mailto:FFSC@finns.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.*

**Huge moose:** A 45 meter (148 ft) wooden moose with a restaurant in the stomach and a viewing deck in the horns will attract tourists to Svansäle in Norrland. Called "Storn", which means 'big moose' in Norrlandish dialect, it features an elevator in a pine trunk which will bring visitors to the entrance in its mouth, where the reception and stores are. From there, visitors will wander down through the neck to the stomach, which will be home to a concert hall, art exhibitions, restaurant and a conference facility.

**Royal stuff:** King Carl XVI Gustaf wants to build three cottages in the Vinde Mountains Nature Reservation. The reason is that Crown Princess Victoria, Princess Madeleine and Prince Carl Philip need their own getaway nests when they visit the mountains. The average commoner is forbidden from building on national parks or reservations, but it remains to be seen if the King will be able to get the okay.

**Flora:** During the year of Linnaeus, 2007, Swedes voted for the most beautiful Swedish wild flower. A total of 220 flowers were listed in the competition and the 28 flowers with the most votes went to the finals. The winner, with 13 % of the votes, was the Lily of the Valley; it was followed by the white Water Lily and the Twinflower (Linnea).

**Technology:** The Swedish company, Portendo, has invented a new technique that can be used in detecting hidden explosives at a distance. This technique was presented at the large safety exhibition, Intersec, in Dubai – the event gathered more than 800 exhibits from 53 countries. Portendo is owned by a small number of private persons who, since 2005, have worked on developing laser-based techniques to meet the growing need to detect explosives from a distance.

**Ouch:** One Swedish flagger had a guardian angel with a great patience, having been run over three times while on his watch. At the annual New Year's running event Sylvesterloppet, in Göteborg, flaggers were hired to prevent contact between the runners and cars. With traffic at a standstill, one driver lost his patience and started passing the lineup. When the flagger stepped out to prevent the driver from crossing over, the driver hit the man, who was thrown to the ground. He managed to get back up, but the driver hit him again, flipping the flagger up on top of the hood. According to witnesses, the driver got out of his car and started cussing the man. Bystanders managed to get the car keys but the driver took them back and drove off. Another driver in the lineup lost his cool and tried to pass other cars, but this driver managed to hit the flagger – luckily, without hurting him too bad. Police caught up with both drivers, but the real wonder: the flagman stayed on his post for the remainder of the run.

*Submitted by,  
Gunnar Wallin*

## Vännerna



### NEXT MEETING

#### THIS MONTH

Next Vännerna business and sewing meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 5, 2008

COMING EVENTS  
Vännerna Business & Sewing Meeting  
Tuesday, March 4, 2008  
10:00 a.m.

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.

## Swedish Center Calendar - February 2008

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1 Happy Hour, Crown Room Lounge 5:00-7:00 pm	2	3 Pancake Breakfast  SSA Children's Swedish School
4	5 SWC & SMC Rehearse 7:00 pm	6 SCC Board Meeting	7	8 Set up for Auction	9 2nd Annual SCC Auction	10 SSA Children's Swedish School
11	12 SWC & SMC Rehearse 7:00 pm	13 Membership Dinner Meeting	14	15 Happy Hour	16	17 SSA Children's Swedish School
18	19 SWC & SMC Rehearse 7:00 pm	20 Nordic Council Meeting	21	22	23 SCC Folk Dance	24
25	26 SWC & SMC Rehearse 7:00 pm	27	28	29		

## Swedish Center Calendar - March 2008

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