

Traditions and heritage through fellowship, educational and entertaining activities

# SCANDINAVIAN CLUB OF COLUMBUS

DECEMBER 2017



Nordic  
Yule



## JULEFEST A FESTIVAL OF ANGELS & LIGHTS

**Saturday Dec. 9th 4pm**

GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
35 W. STANTON AVE  
COLUMBUS OH 43214

As snow crystals start fluttering through the chilled advent air, our houses start brightening up with candles and angels, and colorful linens with embroidery that grandma made during yuletide pasts. The small and cheeky *nisser* and *tomter* peek out from their nooks to see if there is a freshly baked cookie, or perhaps a bowl of warm rice porridge to be had while no one is looking.

**Childhood traditions are a focal point of the Scandinavian Club's annual JULEFEST, and we are inviting you to participate with us!**

Come and be treated to a traditional home-cooked Scandinavian Christmas meal, with delicacy appetizers, and freshly baked *lussekatter* in celebration of Sankta Lucia. If you haven't seen any angels in a while, our Lucia procession will warm your heart!

**JULEFEST & LUCIA PROCESSION**

See prices and details on page 4

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Dale Svendsen

Thank you for volunteering! I am thrilled with the many who have volunteered to make this 80th year of the Scandinavian Club of Columbus so successful. We have had three fun volunteer led and volunteer assisted get-togethers. Many of you are volunteering to help **Ann-Louise Devoe** as she coordinates the Julefest and Lucia Procession on December 9th.

Opportunities to lead Minor and Major Events for 2018: We have been calling minor events *Scantinis* which are easy to organize and coordinate. Members reserve space at a local restaurant or home, and let members know to come. Some past examples include Mozart's, The Boat House, Denmark on High, and have even thought of having breakfast at IKEA for a family event.

The club would also like for the club to have a Major Event in the Spring. It could be around Easter or perhaps you would like to coordinate *Fastelavn*, the Danish version of Mardi Gras, donning a fun costume and watching the kids break open a barrel to get to the candy inside. Think about what is fun for you, and the Board will cull the list of the many who have volunteered to help you be successful.

Åke Hellström is leading "**Scandi-18**" which is the name of the Future of the Scandinavian Club of Columbus Task Force. Åke and others began work in November and will provide a report to the club in March 2018. They are actively seeking information from members, ex-members and potential members of all ages. If you are not personally contacted make sure to provide feed in to

[Akehellstrom@gmail.com](mailto:Akehellstrom@gmail.com)

or to any Board member.

**Dale**

## Stay in Scandinavia a week for FREE!

The new club board and executive team model has opened up opportunities to participate in driving the club forward. We are dependent on members who step up and take on these open positions. This year, we are offering extra incentives for you to sign up!

Thirty minutes south of Oslo lies an idyllic seaside town overlooking the narrow strait of the Oslo fjord. **Drøbak** grew to a small town during the 1600s AD as a fishing village and central location for wood trade. Today, it is buzzing with small shops, summer charm, and people who want to visit the important WWII site, where Norwegian forces sank *Blücher*, one of the Nazi Germany invasion fleet's main heavy cruisers.

As an appreciation for your service to our club, we are offering a stay at a cozy apartment overlooking the fjord for a week. We have three different weeks available through June 30th 2018. You get yourself there, and we will put you up for free!

**Sign up for an open position for on the board or on the executive team positions for a 2-year period, and get in the drawing for the three (3) available weeks to stay in Norway for free. Offer open to all club members. Contact one of our board members for further details.**

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# Suomi Finland 100

On Independence Day Eve, the Finnish flag, also called *siniristilippu*, will be flown from every Finnish flagpole through the night and into the anniversary day on **December 6th**. Cities and municipalities across the country will light buildings and venues with blue and white. What better way to highlight the occasion with an across-the-nation simultaneous coffee break!

We will continue to celebrate Finland with images and history in our January issue.

**We wish every Finn across all continents a proud and well-deserved 100th anniversary!**

SUOMI  
FINLAND  
1917-2017  
100TH  
ANNIVERSARY



## SWEDISH LUCIA - THE ORIGIN

Text: sweden.se culture-traditions/lucia/  
Photo: Scandinavian Club of Columbus

The Lucia tradition can be traced back both to St Lucia of Syracuse, a martyr who died in 304, and to the Swedish legend of Lucia as Adam's first wife. It is said that she consorted with the Devil and that her children were invisible infernals. Thus the name may be associated with both lux (light) and Lucifer (Satan), and its origins are difficult to determine.

The present custom appears to be a blend of traditions.

In the old almanac, Lucia Night was the longest of the year. It was a dangerous night when supernatural beings were abroad and all animals could speak. By morning, the livestock needed extra feed. People also needed extra nourishment and were urged to eat seven or nine hearty breakfasts. This kind of feasting presaged the Christmas fast, which began on Lucia Day.

The first recorded appearance of a white-clad Lucia in Sweden was in

a country house in 1764. The custom did not become universally popular in Swedish society until the 1900s, when schools and local associations in particular began promoting it. The old lussegubbar custom virtually disappeared and white-clad Lucias with their singing processions were considered a more acceptable than the youthful carousals of the past. Stockholm proclaimed its first Lucia in 1927. The custom where Lucia serves coffee and lussekatter dates back to the 1880s, although the traditional buns have been a



A CHILDLIKE HEART IN THE TRADITION OF GENERATIONS

## A YULE GREETING TO OLD FRIENDS

**Ed & Grete Davidsen-Kidwell** have been a central part of the club for decades. At the height of summer 2016, they moved back to Harstad (Norway) to spend time closer to Grete's family. A long time dream for her, and Ed is a good sport and support. He is surrounded by gorgeous nature and loooooong summer nights! The early first spring lawn-mowing is slow to appear, but he has a solution -- they have a small inside 'lawn' on their window sill. Grete and Ed, we wish you a wonderful time and a joyous yuletide! **God jul** from all of us!

**ADVENTURE AWAITS THOSE WHO DARE TO TAKE THE FIRST STEP**



SCANDINAVIAN CLUB OF COLUMBUS  
PO Box 14296 Columbus OH 43214



DARE TO  
BE YOUR  
INNER  
SELF!

DIVERSITY  
MATTERS

# TAKE NOTICE

## A FEW LAST DETAILS



### JULEFEST

**Members** -- We know that you have already mailed in your prepaid reservations. If by chance, it has landed under some Christmas magazines, we urge you to hurry it to the post office by 12/2.

**Non-members** - We would love to have you join us, so please send an email request today to: [scandicluginfo@gmail.com](mailto:scandicluginfo@gmail.com)  
Remaining open spots are going fast!

ADULTS \$27  
TEENS \$16  
CHILDREN \$10  
(which includes gift from Santa)

### DANCE CLASS

Monday **December 18th** 8pm  
Clinton Heights Lutheran Church  
15 Clinton Heights Ave, Columbus

#### **Scandinavian Folk Dancing**

**8pm** Beginning/intermediate  
**9pm** Open dancing & requests  
\$3 per person to cover cost

### OSU PBS

Sunday **December 24th** 4:30pm

#### **New Scandinavian Cooking**

Andreas makes a real Scandinavian Christmas feast and shares all his favorite Norwegian recipes of the season.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

#### Open Executive Team roles

- Membership
- Property
- Spring Event Coordinator

#### Activity roles

- Website administrator
- Facebook administrator
- Scantini organizer
- Children's activities
- Financial audit
- Club archives
- Community outreach

If you have other ideas that you would like to initiate or lead please contact our club president, Dale Svendsen [dalesvendsen@hotmail.com](mailto:dalesvendsen@hotmail.com) 614-499-2869 or another Board member.



### MOVIE NIGHT - Last month

Our movie crowd kept growing, and we had **42 members and guests** attending the quirky, but heart-warming story about life, loss, and community. Surrounded by the beautiful interior of the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, we were treated to Scandinavian cheeses and great movie popcorn donated by Cinemark Theater. Thank you to **Bette Madsen** for organizing, and for all of you who helped create the evening: *Bob & Mary Holm, Ann Marie & Blaine Hoalst, Åke Hellstrom, Michael Lindner, Roger Krogwold, Karen & Don Larson, and the Club Callers.*

**FROM ALL OF US, TO ALL OF YOU - MERRY CHRISTMAS!**