

Christmas celebrations come to the Cultural Center

December is traditionally the busiest month of the year as we prepare for the Christmas season. We hope you will add to your holiday cheer by attending the annual Christmas events at the Scandinavian Cultural Center. Be sure to save these dates: December 4 (Sankta Lucia Fest), December 9 (Norwegian Christmas Service), and December 19 (Nordic Christmas Fest).

SANKTA LUCIA FEST: Since 1950, Pacific Lutheran University has celebrated *Sankta Lucia* according to Swedish tradition. In Sweden, *Lucia Fest* (Festival of Light) is celebrated on December 13 (the shortest day of the year), in honor of *Sankta Lucia*, a young woman who, under trying circumstances, clung to her faith, shared her wealth with the needy, and was subsequently sainted.

Each year PLU students are invited to compete for a \$500 scholarship provided by the Scandinavian Cultural Center. Those students competing for the scholarship are asked to submit a 250-word essay describing the importance of cultural diversity. In addition they must commit to weekly rehearsals in preparation for the event. During rehearsals they learn to sing several Swedish songs (in Swedish!), and become skilled at making authentic Swedish holiday decorations. Following the program in Lagerquist Hall, guests are led along a candlelit pathway by Lucia and all her attendants. The path leads to the Scandinavian Cultural Center for refreshments and participatory dancing around the floor-to-ceiling Christmas tree. Students participating in this year's program are: Kyrstin Allison, Lauren Anderson, Meghan Arntson, Caitlin Campbell, Shelby Daly, Robin Dickson, Kelsey Hartsell, Victoria Heft, Britta Henden, Kelsey Hodge, Emily Ibarra, Cori Jo Jahnsen, Karly Jonasson, Emma Kane, Leann Littig, Lucia Myers, Andrea Nelson, Caroline Olsen, Kate Scheideman, Courtney Shoe, Hanna Storm, Emma Struss, Lynsey Tveit, Mary Wuest, and Alicia Zachary-Erickson.



Sankta Lucia Fest

Friday, December 4, 2009, 7:30 PM
Lagerquist Hall, Pacific Lutheran University
Admission: \$8 (General)
\$7 (Seniors, PLU Faculty/Staff/Admin)
\$5 (SCC Members/Students)
\$3 (Children 10 and Under)

Reception follows in the
Scandinavian Cultural Center

For information and tickets:
Call 253-535-7411 or Email <cbo@plu.edu>
Order Online at <www.luteworld.plu.edu>
or visit PLU Campus Concierge
All major credit cards accepted
Limited number of tickets available at the door

The Sankta Lucia Fest is presented in partnership with IKEA Seattle, 601 SW 41st Street, Renton, WA 98057 (Phone: 425.656.2980). Join our PLU students for their performance at the IKEA store on Saturday, December 5, at 9:30 AM.

***Norwegian
Christmas Service
Julegudstjeneste***

Wednesday, December 9, 7 PM

**Scandinavian Cultural Center
Free Admission**

An annual event on the PLU campus for over a quarter century, the Norwegian Christmas Service (*Julegudstjeneste*) is a tasteful blend of sermon, song, and candlelight. It is the perfect way to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas.

The sermon is conducted in Norwegian and English by a local pastor. The event affords an opportunity for students enrolled in the Scandinavian Area Studies and Norwegian programs to utilize their language skills through scripture readings and singing performances. A reception follows with hot coffee and Norwegian refreshments. The Norwegian Christmas Service is presented by the programs of Scandinavian Areas Studies and Norwegian, and the SCC.



Nordic Christmas Fest

Saturday, December 19, 6:30 PM

Scandinavian Cultural Center

Admission

\$35 (SCC Members/Seniors)

\$40 (General)

Reservations required

Invitations will arrive by mail

The annual Nordic Christmas Fest is one event you will not want to miss! It is an evening best described as fun, festive, and filling! If you arrive with a hearty appetite, we guarantee you will leave in "fine fettle!"



The menu is a smorgasbord of tempting holiday cuisine such as Danish fruit-stuffed roast pork, Finnish cardamom bread, Icelandic caramelized potatoes, Norwegian baked salmon, and Swedish meatballs with lingonberries. Surrounded by the annual "Christmas in Scandinavia" exhibit known for its festival of trees decorated in the tradition of the five Nordic countries, you will enjoy an atmosphere of camaraderie and true holiday spirit.

From the SCC President



The coniferous trees are happy now as they appear to own the northwest landscape. Leaves have been raked up routinely as gravity escorts the final few to their resting place and we settle in for the winter. Susan Young has again demonstrated her leadership by lining up a terrific group of programs, lectures, and events over the next few months. These include the Nordic Sweater (Etc.) Exchange, the Sankta Lucia Festival, and the ever-popular Nordic Christmas Fest! The Norwegian Christmas Service is also on the horizon, coordinated by the Scandinavian Area Studies and Norwegian programs and the SCC. We are also preparing for another outstanding Scandinavian film series so be looking for more information on specific dates and times.

The Council has been working hard as well. I am going to be focusing on board development and expansion in the next six months. I am deeply committed to the Center and want to thank you all for the membership and volunteer support that you offer! Should you find yourself in a position to serve the Center at an event, or on a committee, I would love to know. Please contact me through Susan at 253.535.7322 or <youngse@plu.edu>.

The purpose of the SCC is to bring together individuals and organizations in the Pacific Northwest to support the university's Scandinavian Area Studies and Norwegian programs, the Scandinavian Immigrant Experience Collection, and to promote development and understanding of the Nordic immigrant and Scandinavian-American experiences, cultures and heritage; and to promote ties with, and awareness and understanding of, contemporary Nordic cultures and societies. The SCC Council, the Executive Board, our Advisors, and our Director work collaboratively to accomplish our mission. As we look towards the sunset of our 20th Anniversary Year, 2009, may the year 2010 be filled with progress, health, and peace for each of you. ~ Most sincerely, Lisa Ottoson

Scandinavian Book Club *A Time to Relax and Read*

by Karen Giguere, Garfield Book Company
208 Garfield Street South, Tacoma, WA 98444, 253.535.7665

A wonderful new book has arrived just in time for the holiday gift season. The Kalevala: Tales of Magic and Adventure is a new edition of an old folk epic from Finland. This national tale is told by Kirsti Makinen who describes the events in prose but also gives examples of the rich poetic language of the epic. The enchanting illustrations by Prikko-Liisa Surojegin beautifully capture the images created by the text. Please join us for the Scandinavian Book Club on the first Monday of the month at 6:30 PM in the Fireside Lounge, Garfield Book Company.



SCC council member receives

Outstanding Service Award at Annual Membership Meeting

by Susan Young

In 2001, the Scandinavian Cultural Center Council established the Outstanding Service Award to be presented annually to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the SCC and the work we do. The Annual Membership Meeting on September 26, provided an ideal venue for the presentation of the ninth annual Outstanding Service Award to Maynard Hedegaard.



Maynard was born in Omaha, Nebraska. His mother is 100% Swedish and his father was 100% Danish. These strong family roots have had a powerful influence on his life. Maynard attended Dana College (a school with Danish roots) in Blair, Nebraska, until his family moved to Billings, Montana, where he completed his undergraduate degree in Education with a Major in Music. He taught music at the junior high level in Billings for two years before heading to the Pacific Northwest to complete a Masters Degree in Music from the University of Oregon.

Maynard Hedegaard, 2009 Outstanding Service Award recipient

Maynard entered the United States Air Force, fully expecting to return to civilian life after a four-year enlistment. Instead he went on to retire from the military after serving his country for twenty years. He

eventually began a second career with Lutheran Brotherhood, now Thrivent Financial, where he continues to work today. Maynard and his lovely wife Lise have been married for seventeen years.

Since joining the SCC Council in 1999, Maynard's contributions have been significant and far-reaching. In addition to serving as Chair and overseeing the work of the Endowment Committee, Maynard served as Council Secretary where he utilized his outstanding listening skills and unique ability to capture the essence conversation to produce succinct and accurate minutes for our Council and Executive Board meetings. His level of dedication was manifest in his flawless attendance record.

In June 2002, Maynard assumed the position of Council Vice President. During that time he was instrumental in program planning while continuing to guide the work of the Endowment Committee. He put his organizational skills to work when he assumed the position of Council President in 2003. Under his leadership, meetings were conducted in an efficient yet friendly atmosphere. The cardinal rule of leadership is never asked those you are leading to do something you are not willing to do yourself. Maynard was always willing to do whatever it took to insure the success of the Center.

Maynard received multiple nominations for the Outstanding Service Award this year and I think we can safely say that his character is best described in the words used by those who submitted the nominations: words like kind, pleasant, dependable, willing attitude, dedication, generous, and loyal. To that we might also add that he has a tremendous singing voice. Congratulations, Maynard, upon receiving the Outstanding Service Award. It is a tribute well-earned and well-deserved. We wish you success in future endeavors and look forward to your long and continued relationship with the Scandinavian Cultural Center.

Maynard was presented with a lovely Swedish crystal vase with detailed etching.

Outstanding Service Award Recipients

- 2001—Florence Buck
- 2002—Joanne Klein
- 2003—Hans Bjornen
- 2004—Inge Miller
- 2005—Betty Larson
- 2006—Janet Ruud
- 2007—Elene Emerson
- 2008—Esther Hinschberger
- 2009—Maynard Hedegaard

Holiday shopping begins at PLU with three unique events to boost your spirits

Third Annual Nordic Sweater (Etc.) Exchange

Do you have hanging in your closet a Nordic sweater that you never wear? Perhaps it is the wrong color or the wrong size. The annual Nordic Sweater (Etc.) Exchange on Saturday, November 21 (11:00 AM to 1:00 PM), is the perfect place for you to bring those sweaters to sell or exchange.

The event also provides an opportunity for you to bring other gently-used Nordic items that you no longer wish to keep. Chances are your items will be just the thing someone else is looking for. You will want to arrive at 10:00 AM to get things set up before the event begins.



38th Annual Yule Boutique



In order to give you yet another opportunity to do some Christmas shopping, we purposefully scheduled the Sweater Exchange on the same day as the annual Yule Boutique,

sponsored by the PLU Women's Association. Now in its 38th year, the Yule Boutique features quality arts and crafts by Puget Sound artisans and a variety of food vendors. The event takes place in Olson Auditorium and runs from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Admission: Donation

\$3.00. Shuttle bus from campus parking lots is provided. For more information, contact: Lynette Cubbage, 253.531.7581.

Danish Bazaar to be held just in time for Christmas!

The Scandinavian Cultural Center Council is pleased to partner with the Danish Sisterhood, Thyra Lodge #19, for the first ever Danish Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, December 5. The event takes place in the Cultural Center and is open from 10:00 AM-4:00 PM. Admission is free.



Just in time for Christmas, the bazaar will feature local vendors whose wares include Danish artwork, embroidered items, knitted sweaters, pottery, glassware, and much more. Mouthwatering Danish baked goods will also be for sale. Outstanding raffle prizes (to include a vintage Danish apron) will be awarded throughout the day. Plan now to attend and get a head start on your holiday shopping.

Who knows—If all goes well this just might become an annual event.

Never let it be said that "Danes can't have fun." This photo was taken at the October 2008 meeting of the Danish Sisterhood, Lodge 19, when members appeared in uproariously funny and creatively unique costumes. Included in the ensemble pictured here is Carol Kemp (far left), former president of the Scandinavian Cultural Center Council!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2009

EXHIBITS

Christmas in Scandinavia

December 1 through December 23

Public Hours—Free Admission

Sundays, 1:00-4:00 PM; Tuesdays/Wednesdays, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM
(Note: There are no Public Hours: November 8 and 29 or December 27, 29, and 30)

MAJOR EVENTS

- ★**3rd Annual Nordic Sweater (Etc.) Exchange**, Saturday, November 21, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM
(Details on pg. 5)
- ★**38th Annual Yule Boutique**, Saturday, November 21, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM (Details on pg. 5)
- ★**Sanka Lucia Fest**, Friday, December 4, 7:30 PM, Lagerquist Hall (Details on pg. 1)
- ★**Danish Christmas Bazaar**, Saturday, December 5, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM (Details on pg. 5)
- ★**Norwegian Christmas Service**, Wednesday, December 9, 7:00 PM (Details on pg. 2)
- ★**Nordic Christmas Fest**, Saturday, December 19, 6:30 PM (Details on pg. 2)

CLASSES

- ★**Norwegian Rosemaling Classes**, November 14-15, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM, \$25 PER CLASS
For beginning, intermediate and advanced painters. Class size is limited.
Contact instructor Marilyn Hanson for information and registration, 425.882.3647
- ★**Advanced Norwegian Language Classes**, Mondays, 6:30 PM
- ★**Intermediate Norwegian Language Classes**, Thursdays, 6:30 PM
Contact: Audun Toven, 253.536.8392 or <tovenat@plu.edu>

MEETINGS

- ★**Danish Sisterhood**, November 4 and December 2, 9:30 AM, 253.843.2249
- ★**Danish Brotherhood**, November 14 and December 12, 9:30 AM
- ★**Danish Sangaften**, November 15 and December 13, 6:00 PM, 253.984.6700
- ★**SCC Council**, November 11, 5:30 PM (No meeting in December)
- ★**SCC Executive Board**, November 17 and December 15, UC 212, 12:00 PM

Lecturers inspire and educate audiences through their expertise in art, film, music, and literature

During the month of October, the Scandinavian Cultural Center was the site of three outstanding Nordic lectures featuring knowledgeable speakers in the fields of film, art, music, and literature.



The series began on October 7 with a multimedia presentation by Sølvi Barber (right), writer and director of the documentary film “The Dance of Life” in which she tells the story of Norway’s legendary artist Edvard Munch. Barber’s documentary is aptly titled for Munch’s painting by the same name, which is part of a series of works called “The Frieze of Life.” Munch described “The Frieze” as “a poem of life, love, and death.” The documentary film, much like Munch’s paintings, portrays a life haunted by memories of tragedy, loss, suffering, and death.

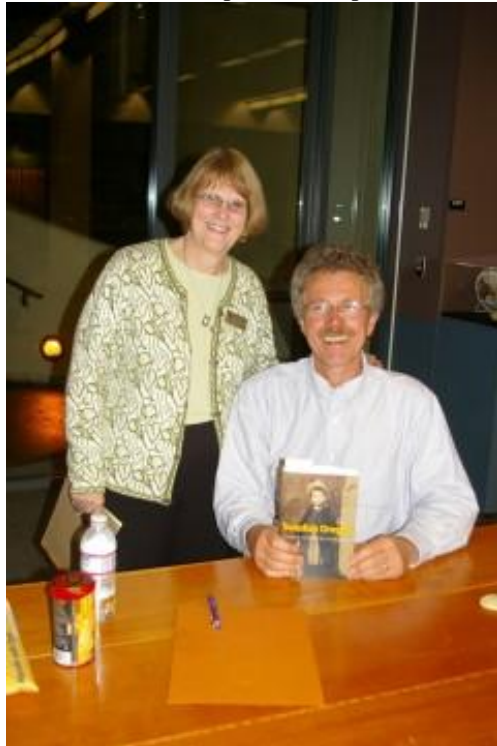
Director Sølvi Barber shared many insights into the creative process used in the making of her documentary film, “The Dance of Life.”

On November 14, renowned Swedish composer Karin Rehnqvist (left) provided her audience with insights into the process she used in creating *Ljus av ljus* (Light of Light), a composition commissioned by French and Swedish radio companies. One characteristic feature of her work is the exploration of the areas between art and folk music. Both elements are integral and never merely used for effect or as a nostalgic element. For *Ljus av ljus*, she called upon texts from the Swedish hymnal and the Bible, and the dramatic vocal technique of *kulning*, often used by herding girls to call livestock down from high mountain pastures. The audience heard the entire composition amid strategic pauses for comments by Rehnqvist. It was an outstanding lecture and enjoyed by all. Following a period of questions and answers, audience members had a chance to visit with the composer.

Karin Rehnqvist's visit was made possible by an endowment established by Betty and Ed Larson in memory of Per Jonsson and Anna Persson Jonsson, and Ole Elias Larson Fjorstad and Hildur Johansson.



In his lecture on October 21, author Lars Nordström (right) introduced the audience to his latest book “Swedish Oregon” that tells the fascinating story of Swedish immigrants who settled in Oregon. Through the use of photography, historical fact, and personal experience, Dr. Nordström described the research



process involved in acquiring various manuscripts and primary documents that make up the book. Nordström has skillfully transformed his research into a book that illuminates the immigrant experience as seen through the eyes of Swedish men, women, and children. During the lecture, he pointed out how the Swedish immigrant experience to America has changed and progressed since the late 1890s and touched upon the status of the Swedish community in Oregon today. He observed that the contemporary Swedish community includes both those who define themselves as “Swedish-American” based upon ancestry as well as more recent immigrants whose identity is described more as “a Swede in America.” Overall, this lecture presented a rich historical background and investigation of the Swedish immigrant identity within the context of Oregon State. *SCC Director Susan Young joins Dr. Lars Nordström, author of “Swedish Oregon,” at the book signing table.*