

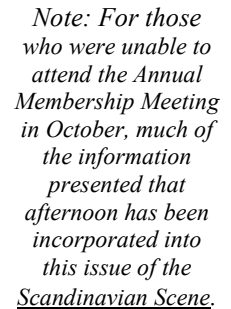
The Holiday Season is Rapidly Approaching

The holiday season begins early at the Scandinavian Cultural Center and Pacific Lutheran University. The first sign of holiday activity is the mounting of our annual *Christmas in Scandinavia* exhibit. On November 15, the Cultural Center will be aglow with white lights and evergreen trees trimmed in holiday decorations from each Nordic country. (See the *Calendar of Events* on P. 6 for public hours.)

On Saturday, November 20, Christmas shopping begins at 9:00AM on the PLU campus with three separate events on the same day! The first of these is the *Nordic Sweater (& Other Nordic Things) Exchange and Sale*. If you have gently-used Nordic sweaters and other Nordic things you would like to exchange or sell, all you have to do is reserve a free table. Call us at 253-535-7349 or send an email to <youngse@plu.edu>. The event takes place in the foyer outside the Scandinavian Cultural Center and continues until everything sells. Come early because items go fast! Free admission.

The *Danish Sisterhood Holiday Bazaar* will take place in the SCC where you will find vendors selling Danish artwork, embroidered items, hand-knitted sweaters, pottery, glassware, jewelry, and much, much more. Mouthwatering Danish baked goods will be available for purchase as well. The event runs from 9:00AM to 4:00PM and admission is free. Call 360-491-2271 or email <danishkatie@comcast.net> for more information.

The third shopping venue is *PLU's 39th Annual Yule Boutique*, 9:00AM to 5:00 PM. Sponsored by the PLU Women's Club for Student Scholarships, the boutique offers quality arts and crafts by Puget Sound artists and a variety of food vendors. This year's event will still take place on lower campus in three locations: Olson Field House, Memorial Gym, and Tahoma Bakery & Café. Shuttles are available from campus parking lots. Admission donation \$3.00. Call Lynette Cabbage at 253-531-7481 for more information.



*Note: For those who were unable to attend the Annual Membership Meeting in October, much of the information presented that afternoon has been incorporated into this issue of the *Scandinavian Scene*.*

Once your holiday shopping is complete, you will be free to begin planning for some holiday fun! The Scandinavian Cultural Center offers three outstanding annual Christmas events: the *Swedish Sankta Lucia Fest*, the *Norwegian Christmas Service*, and the *Nordic Christmas Fest and Banquet*. (See P. 3 for details.)



Director's Report

Work at the Scandinavian Cultural Center continues to be meaningful and eventful. Not only did we host several exciting exhibits, but our program offerings were equally varied and significant. Scholarships totaling over ten thousand dollars were awarded to four PLU students to enhance their learning experiences.

We appreciate the tremendous support throughout the year from friends and members of the Center. Support comes in a variety of ways: time, money, and volunteerism. For example, we have a group of dedicated volunteers who serve as docents during public hours. When they are not busy greeting visitors and offering tours of the Center, these individuals willingly assist wherever needed.

Ongoing financial support comes in the form of membership dues and monetary gifts. Others provide support by donating their priceless Nordic heirlooms to the permanent artifact collection. The SCC provides a home for these precious items and each donation, no matter how big or how small, adds to the overall value and comprehensiveness of the collection.

Speaking of valuable artifacts, you may remember that a few years ago (2007 to be exact) we discovered an original painting by renowned Norwegian artist Nikolai Astrup. The piece was donated to the SCC in 1999 by Tacoma resident Neil Anderson. With Neil's blessing, the decision was made to sell the painting, the proceeds from which were to be placed in an SCC endowment fund. Neil told me that he "wanted the painting to benefit the SCC and that an endowment fund would be the ideal way to do so in perpetuity." Little did we know that the painting would sell for nearly half a million dollars! It is with sadness that I share the news of Neil's passing on September 30. Of all my memories of Neil, what I remember most is that he was a delightful conversationalist and he had a zest for life that was contagious. Our heartfelt condolences go out to his brother Sid and other family and friends.

It is my great honor to announce that the endowment fund created from the sale of the Astrup painting has been named the Neil Anderson/SCC Endowment Fund. Neil's immeasurable generosity made the endowment possible which, in turn, allows us to continue our program and scholarship offerings for generations and generations to come. Neil will be missed by all who knew and loved him, and through the endowment, his memory will live forever. ~Susan Young

Previous Awardees

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

SCC Outstanding Service Award *Call for Nominations*

"I cannot know what your destiny will be, but one thing I do know is that the truly happy among you will be those who have learned to serve."

~Albert Schweitzer

The tenth annual Outstanding Service Award will be presented on December 18, at the Nordic Christmas Fest. The prestigious award is presented to individuals who display outstanding service and dedication to the SCC and its mission to preserve and promote Nordic heritage—past, present, and future. Qualified nominees include anyone who has served or is currently serving as a member of the SCC Council. Nomination forms are available through the SCC Director's office (call 253-535-7322 or email <scanentr@plu.edu>).

Holiday Events (continued from P. 1)

Sankta Lucia Fest: The Sankta Lucia Fest was initiated at PLU in 1950 by Rev. E. Arthur Larson as a cultural component to his Swedish language class. From its humble beginnings, the Lucia Fest has evolved into a holiday extravaganza. The evening begins at 7:30PM in Lagerquist Hall in the Mary Baker Russell Music Center. The focus of the program is Lucia and her attendants who enter the auditorium by candle light singing the Sankta Lucia song in Swedish. The festivities continue with singing, dancing, and telling of the Lucia legend. After the program, Lucia leads a procession to the SCC for the reception that features more dancing and authentic Swedish refreshments. For tickets call 253-535-7411, email <cbo@plu.edu> or visit the PLU Campus Concierge in the University Center. All major credit cards are accepted. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door.



Norwegian Christmas Service: This annual PLU event began in 1976 and continues to be extremely popular. It takes place in the Scandinavian Cultural Center on Wednesday, December 8, at 7:00PM. Students in the Norwegian and Scandinavian Area Studies programs partake in this event, providing an opportunity for them to display their knowledge and speaking skills. The event is free and a reception follows.



Nordic Christmas Fest and Banquet: The final holiday event is the Nordic Christmas Fest and Banquet on Saturday, December 18, at 6:30PM. (Doors open at 6:00PM.) The evening is a great time to enjoy Nordic holiday traditions to their festive fullest with friends and family, fellowship, fine food, and just plain fun. Reservations are required. Tickets are \$35 (SCC Members/Seniors), and \$40 (Non-Members). Invitations will be mailed soon.

Some thoughts on deferred giving



Where there is a will, there is a way . . . to make a charitable deferred gift. In most cases it is a simple bequest that states either an amount or a percentage of the estate should go to one's favorite charity. If the Scandinavian Cultural Center is a meaningful part of your life, you may want to consider a deferred gift in your estate planning. There are various ways to make a deferred gift in addition to a bequest in one's will. Some people use life insurance, making the charity a full or partial beneficiary of the policy. If the charity is made the owner as well as the beneficiary of the policy, there can be tax benefits as well. Another technique is to make the charity a full or partial beneficiary of one's IRA account. More and more, people are including charitable donations in their estate plans. If you have questions as to how best to proceed, check with your attorney or accountant. For questions regarding tax benefits of some of the deferred gift techniques, please don't hesitate to contact me by phone (253-222-3373) or by e-mail (<larson@plu.edu>). ~Ed Larson, Member, SCC Council and Executive Director of Charitable Estate Planning, PLU

Message from the Council President

It is my pleasure to report that we have maintained a full calendar of classes, exhibitions, and events that encompass both traditional and contemporary interests in Scandinavia. I don't have nearly enough space to mention all of the accomplishments of our twentieth anniversary year, but here are just a few:

Swedish Farm Tour: The well-maintained family farm, belonging to SCC member Nancy (Johnson) White, was built in the early 1930s. It is listed on the Pierce County and Washington State Historical Registries.

Exhibits: "Facing the Future with Pieces from the Past" featuring selected items from our permanent artifact collection; "Christmas in Scandinavia" displaying decorated trees from each Nordic country; "Nordic Imagery: Pastels and Colors" by local artists Sharon Aamodt and Bob Dexter; "Discovering Nordic Heritage: Costumes and Textiles," and *Dekorglädje*, Swedish paintings by Alison Aune.

Annual Events: We offer several annual events that continue to be popular and well-attended by our membership, the PLU community, and the public: Nordic Film Series, Swedish Heritage Endowed Program, Norwegian Heritage Festival, Scandinavian Heritage Festival at the Puyallup Fairgrounds, Danish Fastelavn, Swedish Sankta Lucia Fest, Norwegian Christmas Service, and the Nordic Christmas Fest (or I should say "feast").

I am thrilled to report the continued financial stability of the SCC and the growth in the quality and number of leaders now on our Council roster. As we look ahead to another productive year, we celebrate the host of individuals who support the SCC through their continued commitment of time, talent, and financial giving. Coupled with the dedication of our director, council members, and docents, the SCC will carry on its work and seek new ways to serve our community, our culture, and our mission. ~Lisa Marie Ottoson



The SCC Permanent Artifact Collection

The SCC Permanent Artifact Collection serves as tangible evidence of Nordic heritage appreciated and preserved for the education and enjoyment of generations to come. Nearly 300 pieces were added to the collection over the past twelve months by the following donors: Linda Caspersen-Andresen (Gig Harbor), Robert Husted (Tacoma), Lori Kase (Tacoma), Karen LaFlamme (Puyallup), Eeva LaLone (Puyallup), Rebecca Hirdman (St. Paul, MN), Barbara McKenzie (Gig Harbor), Inge Miller (Lakewood), the late Myrna Rieck (Fircrest), Eldon Schafer (Tucson, AZ), Karen Servey (Yelm), Donna Smith (Kalispell, MT), and Susan Young (Puyallup). Among the donated items are woven tapestries, porcelain plates, children's toys, rosemaled plates and bowls, a copper tea pot (circa 1905), silver serving spoons (circa 1897), a small wooden chest (circa 1901), jewelry, table linens, national costumes from Denmark, Finland, and Norway, and a 100-year-old Danish canister set. We are indeed honored to provide a permanent home for these precious heirlooms.



The most recent acquisition arrived just a short time ago. It is estimated that over 400 porcelain plates are stored in the boxes pictured here. The impressive collection comes to us from Char Ward who is "relieved to find a good home for her mother's plates." Plans are underway to display the entire collection in a future exhibit for all to enjoy.

News and Notes . . .

The Scandinavian Shop

The Garfield Book Company at PLU (208 Garfield Street, Tacoma) offers special discounts to SCC members. Be sure to stop by the store and take advantage of 20% off on Nordic jewelry in November and 20% off on Nordic Christmas decorations in December.

Scandinavian Book Club (Meets in the Garfield Book Company) Newcomers Welcome

November 11, 2010, 6:00-7:00 PM

Shame by Karin Alvtegen

As one of Sweden's greatest crime writers, Karin Alvtegen introduces readers to Monica and Maj-Britt who have something very profound in common—both are troubled by secrets from the past. Monica is a surgeon and physician incapable of forming meaningful attachments. Maj-Britt hides from the world and, because of her obesity, requires the help of another just to survive. As Shame unfolds, their stories are drawn alongside one another until a chance encounter forces them to confront the secrets and connections that could save or destroy them both.

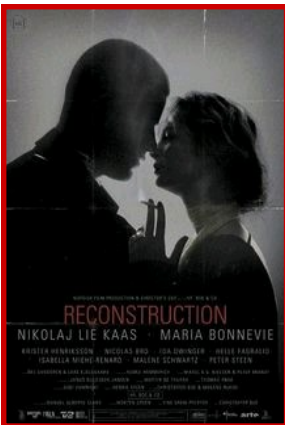
No meeting in December.

January 13, 2011, 6:00-7:00 PM

Kristin Lavransdatter by Sigrid Undset

Sigrid Undset interweaves political, social, and religious history with the daily aspects of family life to create a colorful, richly detailed tapestry of Norway during the fourteenth-century. Undset's own life, her familiarity with Norse sagas, folklore, and medieval literature, her experiences as a daughter, wife, and mother, and her deep religious faith, profoundly influenced her writing. Her grasp of the connections between past and present and of human nature itself, combined with the extraordinary quality of her writing, sets her works far above the genre of "historical novels."

Nordic Film Series to Focus on Denmark



Five fantastic Danish films comprise the 2010-2011 Nordic Film Series. The first film, Reconstruction, is scheduled for Sunday, December 12, at 2:00PM in the Scandinavian Cultural Center. Admission is free and refreshments will be served.

Reconstruction is a psychological drama and the directorial debut of Christoffer Boe. Filmed in Copenhagen, it won the *Camera D'Or* (Best Debut Film) at the Cannes Film Festival in 2003. The main character is Alex, a photographer with a Stockholm-bred girlfriend, Simone. When Alex abandons Simone to pursue the beautiful Aimee, time and place seem to dissolve. Peter Theis, in his article "Tryste with a Twist," writes, "Reconstruction is a dizzying Danish puzzle about a man who, after a romantic encounter, is bounced into a parallel reality in which his existence seems to have been erased."

Four additional films will complete the series:

Brothers (2004) on January 16; The Bench (2000) on February 20;
Open Hearts (2002) on March 6; The Five Obstructions (2003) on April 10

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2010 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

3rd Annual Swedish Endowed Program featuring Chef Pelle Nilsson

November 14, 2:00PM, (*Gallery Seating Only Available-Free Admission-Reservations Required*)

4th Annual Nordic Sweater (and Other Nordic Things) Exchange/Sale

November 20, 9:00AM (*See P.1 for details.*)

2nd Annual Danish Sisterhood Holiday Bazaar

November 20, 9:00AM (*See P.1 for details.*)

39th Annual PLU Yule Boutique

November 20, 9:00AM (*See P.1 for details.*)

60th Annual Sankta Lucia Fest

December 3, 7:30PM, (*See P.3 for details.*)

34th Annual Norwegian Christmas Service

December 8, 7:00PM, (*See P.3 for details.*)

18th Annual Nordic Christmas Fest and Banquet

December 18, 6:30PM (Doors open at 6:00PM) (*See P.3 for details.*)

CULTURAL EXHIBITS



Dekorglädje (Ornamental Joy)
Swedish Paintings by Alison Aune
September 14 - November 14

Public Hours—Free Admission

Sundays, 1:00PM-4:00PM, Tuesdays/
Wednesdays, 11:00AM-3:00PM

No Public Hours on November 28,
December 26, 28, 29, 2010,
and January 2, 2011



CLASSES AND MEETINGS

Norwegian Language Classes, Beginning/Intermediate Levels, contact Camilla Rico, 253-535-4301 <rico@plu.edu>. For Intermediate/Advanced Levels, contact Audun Toven, 253-536-8392 <tovenat@plu.edu>.

Danish Sisterhood, November 10 and December 1, 11:00AM, INFO: 253-843-2249

Danish Brotherhood, November 13 and December 11, 9:30AM

Danish Sangaften, November 21 and December 19, 6:00PM, INFO: 253-984-6700

SCC Council, November 10, 5:30PM (NO MEETING IN DECEMBER)

Sankta Lucia Rehearsals, November 7, 14, and 21, 4:00PM

Interdisciplinarity and Area Studies

*by Troy Storfjell, Associate Professor
Norwegian and Scandinavian Studies*



What is the difference between Norwegian and Scandinavian Area Studies at Pacific Lutheran University? And why is it important that the university maintain each of these programs?

Although there is a fair degree of overlap between the two programs, the distinctions between them are important. In a nutshell, the Norwegian program is part of the Department of Languages and Literatures, while Scandinavian Area Studies is one of the university's eight Interdisciplinary Programs. This means that each program approaches its subject matter from a different perspective.

Students majoring or minoring in Norwegian focus on mastering the Norwegian language, and on literary studies, which includes textual analysis, literary history and genre studies, among other things. These students work on reading critically, and on developing an expertise in an academic discipline with a distinct history and way of investigating and building knowledge. In essence, an academic discipline is an institutionalized set of practices for studying some aspect of the world. Disciplines develop their own sets of questions and terminologies, and, although every discipline is also the site of ongoing debates about nearly everything pertaining to them, it is probably safe to say that each discipline has a basic set of assumptions and values that it more or less agrees upon—or at least about which it has agreed to argue.

Academic disciplines thus provide a certain amount of rigor, along with proven and accepted approaches to generating and examining knowledge about the world, and are thus essential to academic inquiry. But over the past century it has become increasingly apparent to many scholars that the various disciplines need to communicate with each other, and that there is much to be offered in multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches to academic inquiry. Out of this realization the movement towards interdisciplinarity has emerged, to which PLU has made some substantial commitments.

Area Studies, which developed in the United States after the Second World War, are a natural site for interdisciplinarity, since the field was created to develop an international focus in American academia that would create experts in specific geopolitical or cultural areas or regions who could bring multiple ways of knowing—that is, multiple disciplines—to bear on their areas.

The Scandinavian Area Studies Program was developed at PLU during the 1970s, and brings faculty members from Languages and Literatures, Political Science, Music, Economics, History, English and Religion together to look at the Nordic Region through their perspective disciplinary lenses. Students majoring in this program not only can bring a language other than Norwegian to their degree, they also develop the ability to use a variety of disciplinary approaches to understand Scandinavia and Scandinavians.

The two programs form part of PLU's four-pronged commitment to focusing on Scandinavia, together with the Scandinavian Immigrant Experience Collection at the library, and the Scandinavian Cultural Center. Each of these four components has much to offer, and together they even offer another sort of interdisciplinary collaboration themselves. Thus the university's focus on Scandinavia is not only secure, but also well-rounded.



Scandinavian SCENE

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The *Scandinavian Scene* is a bi-monthly newsletter published for members and friends of the SCC.
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