# **SCANDINAVIAN SCENE**

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JEWS OF NORWAY EXHIBIT KON-TIKI MUSEUM LECTURE COOKING CLASSES FALL SCHEDULE AND MORE...



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\*Elected Officers

### **FROM THE PRESIDENT**



The summer is flying by! Before we know it, the fall season of the Scandinavian Cultural Center will be upon us! Along with all of the normal activities that are being planned – exhibitions in the Center, special programs to stimulate our Scandinavian consciousness,

learning opportunities like Nordic cooking classes, plus much more – there will be some changes.

The primary change will be that the SCC will have a new Director, Jason Schroeder. In order to give you some background on the new director, let me quote from a paragraph written by Kevin O'Brien, Dean of Humanities at PLU, and head of the search committee who chose Jason Schroeder: "Jason received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2016, and was teaching at Augustana College last year. He is a folklorist by training, and... he will bring expertise in ethnographic research, interpretive events, and cultural traditions to his work. I think he'll be great at listening to and working with the SCC council and membership, collaborating with a range of community organizations, and working with partners at PLU. Before his academic career, he also served in the military and worked in international business. A native of the Washington, he is very excited to be coming home." We are expecting Jason to be with us in early September.

I would like to thank Don Ryan, who served as interim Director at the SCC for the past few months, following the departure of Elisabeth Ward. Don did a tremendous job, working closely with the SCC Council and coordinating events and activities in the Center. Don's leadership during the time we were without a permanent director was extraordinary, and with his contributions the Center will be moving smoothly into its new phase.

Thanks also needs to go out to the various individuals and committees of the SCC who in the past few months spearheaded successful activities, such as the "Syttende Mai" (May 17) program and the highly successful Spring Banquet. In addition, Council members have been working hard in other areas, such as setting up exhibits and overseeing work and repairs that needed to be done in the Center. More recently, Council members worked closely with the University's Finance and Advancement Departments to ensure that the SCC's finances run smoothly.

Much more could be written, but let me end by saying that we are looking forward to the future. With new leadership under Jason Schroeder, together with an SCC Council that is active and enthusiastic, we are excited about what lies ahead. We look forward to your participation, as SCC members, in the activities and events that will fill the calendar on the months ahead.

- ED LARSON

#### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT THE SCANDINAVIAN CULTURAL CENTER

As a member you will have the opportunity to volunteer in areas of specific interest to you. For example, SCC members serve on the Scandinavian Cultural Council, teach cooking and language classes, help with exhibit preparation and much more. Another way to volunteer is by serving as a docent during regularly scheduled public hours. To find out more about volunteering, send us an email at *scancntr@plu.edu* or call 253-535-7349.

# FROM THE INTERIM DIRECTOR



These have been interesting and exciting times at the Scandinavian Cultural Center and 2017 will be remembered as the Year of Three Directors. In late February, I was asked if I might fill in as Interim Director of the SCC after Elisabeth Ward resigned to take a job closer to her family.

Although the job was often a challenge, I was well rewarded by the wonderful people I encountered during the journey. The SCC Council and volunteers impressed me with their dedication and sincerity. The countless hours they put into making the Center exciting is truly impressive. I've also had the opportunity to meet many members of the Center and what an enthusiastic group of supporters we have, representing the different heritages across Scandinavia! Over the past few months, I've been very impressed by the diversity and quality of programs the SCC had to offer this Spring, and this Fall's schedule is shaping up very well. The cooking classes are back (Norwegian, Danish and Swedish), there will be new exhibits, lectures, Rosemaling classes and, of course, the Lucia Festival and other Jul activities.

As fun as it was to be your Interim Director, it is time to turn over the reins to the new Director, Dr. Jason Schroeder. Jason promises to bring some sincere enthusiasm and care to the SCC and we can look forward to many good things. I'll be hanging around a bit, working with some of the programs I initiated, and attending some of the Center's events.

Takk og vi ses!

- DON RYAN

# FROM THE NEW DIRECTOR



My name is Jason M. Schroeder and I am delighted to join the Scandinavian Cultural Center as Director. I am excited to meet and work with all of you and to explore the opportunities that await us. I already had the pleasure of meeting some of you in June when I visited, and I look forward

to getting to know you better. I will begin the position September 5.

I come from Augustana College in Rock Island, IL, where I taught Swedish and Scandinavian folklore as a Teaching Fellow, as well as working with the American Scandinavian Association at Augustana. Before that, I was at University of Wisconsin-Madison, where I earned my M.A. and Ph.D. in Scandinavian Studies and Folklore Studies. I earned my B.A. in Comparative History of Ideas from University of Washington.

My area of expertise is Scandinavian and Scandinavian-American folksong. I wrote my dissertation on Swedish folksong, specifically uses of traditional ballads. I have nine years of experience as a community folklorist in the Midwest. I mainly examine current Nordic-American identities there. However, I originally come from the Pacific Northwest. I grew up in Everett and Seattle. I am a former U.S. Marine and worked as a mechanic, machinist, and technician before I became a full-time folklorist. My family is Norwegian-American but I learned Swedish, mostly in the Åland Islands. I have family and friends in Tacoma and I am excited to be at the Scandinavian Cultural Center and Pacific Lutheran University and to offer my skills and knowledge to you.

- JASON SCHROEDER

# **CURRENT EXHIBIT**

### THE VIKING WORLD

The Scandinavian Cultural Center is happy to present a new exhibit addressing the Viking Age that shows not only Viking achievements in exploration and trade, but also numerous aspects of their daily life. Come and learn about more than just the raiders and traders, but also about how they and their families lived and survived. The exhibit features a variety of items from the SCC's collection along with artifacts and artifact replicas loaned to us from members and friends of our community, including replica costumes, jewelry, tools, and examples of period trade goods. Our collections intern, KD Williams, has organized this exhibit with the assistance of our valued

volunteers, Melody Stepp and Glamfolk Viking Age Living

Maren Johnson, and with many items loaned by members of The History Group. This exhibit will be on display until September 20.



### **UPCOMING EXHIBIT**

#### WERGELAND'S LEGACY: JEWISH LIFE AND CULTURE IN NORWAY Opening: September 25, 7 p.m.

Jewish communities can be found in nearly every nation on Earth, and Norway is no exception. As a free and welcoming place (although not always that way), Jews fleeing persecution from other lands established themselves in Scandinavia, especially in the latter half of the 19th century, where they could live their lives relatively undisturbed. Although never great in numbers, Jews participated productively in Norwegian society, most notably in Oslo and Trondheim, where synagogues were established. The German invasion of Norway in 1940 changed all of that. The Nazis required Jews to register as such and in 1942, the deportations began. About half the Jewish population escaped to Sweden and more than 700 were rounded up, placed on ships, and sent to concentration camps. There were few survivors and most perished at Auschwitz. Others participated in the Resistance, and after the war, many in exile returned. Today the Jewish communities in Norway thrive.

The exhibit, "Wergeland's Lecacy: Jewish Life and Culture in Norway," is courtesy of the Jødisk Museum in Oslo. The Museum produced the original texts and images for this exhibit which has traveled to many locations in Norway and Europe, and now to our own Center. It will be on display from September 25 through November 5 and will be in place during PLU's annual Powell-Heller Conference for Holocaust Education (November 1–3).

Additionally, we will honor the memory of the hundreds of Norwegian Jews who perished after deportation by displaying their names on the walls of the Stuen Room at the Center.



# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### THOR HEYERDAHL ANNUAL LECTURE October 5, 7 p.m.

One of the most well-known and admired Norwegians of all times was the explorer, archaeologist and writer, Thor Heyerdahl (1914-2002). Heyerdahl first came to the world's attention 70 years ago with his successful Kon-Tiki Expedition, during which he successfully



traveled across the Pacific from Peru to Polynesia aboard an experimental prehistoric sailing raft. The book and the film of the adventure were an international sensation and over the following 55 years, Heyerdahl continued a life of exciting and often controversial ideas and expeditions, which he shared with both the scientific

community and the public. The Kon-Tiki Museum in Oslo displays the actual famous raft along with many other exhibits celebrating Thor Heyerdahl's life and is one of the most popular attractions in Norway. SCC Interim Director, Don Ryan, had the unique privilege of working closely with Heyerdahl for several years and is involved in perpetuating his legacy. A few years ago, he initiated the annual Thor Heyerdahl Lecture at PLU, which has brought several notable speakers from Norway and elsewhere to the SCC.



On October 5, we are honored to welcome Martin Biehl, who was appointed director of the Kon-Tiki Museum in 2015. Martin is well known in Norway as an art historian and with his background in both business and museums, he was an excellent choice to guide

the Museum in the years ahead. We look forward to hearing his experiences as the new director, immersing himself in the amazing world of Thor Heyerdahl. The lecture will take place in the SCC at 7 p.m.

#### NEW NORTH SÁMI LANGUAGE STUDY GROUP



Beginning at 2 p.m. on Sunday, August 27, the North Sámi Language Study Group will begin meeting to work on learning the most widely used of the Sámi languages. We will meet three Sundays every month, and will work through a variety of language learning

curricula over time. The group is open to anyone who wants to learn North Sámi, and who is able to commit to working through the material between meetings. For more information, contact:

Dr. Troy Størfjell: 253-535-8514 storfjta@plu.edu

### THE COOKING CLASSES ARE BACK!

The SCC is proud to offer, once again, tasty Scandinavian cooking classes in our lovely demonstration kitchen. Dishes from Norway, Denmark and Sweden will be presented by our guest chefs and the cost is only \$5 per session, including a taste of the results. A Danish cooking class will be held on September 23, Norwegian classes on October 10, 16, and 21 and a Swedish class on October 26, all from 10 a.m.–noon.



# **RECENT EVENTS**





# **UPCOMING CLASS**

#### ROSEMALING CLASS September 14-16



Once again, Marilyn Hansen returns to the SCC to share her expert knowledge of rosemaling. Rosemaling is an important Norwegian folkcraft that varies from region to region and valley. It usually features a strong floral pattern, but also other more geometric designs. Marilyn is

a well-respected teacher of various techniques, and has been offering courses for many years. The course at the SCC will be offered as a series, taking place

over three days: Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., for one flat fee of \$75. The class is appropriate for beginning students who know little about rosemaling but are curious to try their hand at this beautiful Norwegian folkcraft. It is also a great opportunity for more intermediate painters to work with others to improve their skills. For an additional cost, Marilyn has everything one could need to get started, or you can bring your own paint, paintbrushes, and wooden object to paint. We advise that you dress in work clothes as you whirl your way around this wood-painting technique. To sign up and for further information, call Marilyn at (425) 765-3694. Marilyn will contact all participants ahead of time to clarify supplies and to customize the course to your needs.

#### THE SCC AT THE MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL!



# FALL CALENDAR

#### **OPEN HOURS**

Tuesday & Wednesday: 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday: 1-4 p.m.

All events take place in the SCC and are free unless otherwise noted.

Sept. 13 (Wed.) .....SCC Council Meeting, 6 p.m. Sept. 14-16 (Thur.-Sat.).....Rosemaling Class, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sept. 23 (Sat.) ......Danish Cooking Class, 10 a.m. - noon, \$5 Sept. 24 (Sun.) .....SCC Docents Luncheon, 1-3 p.m. Sept. 25 (Mon.) .....Exhibit Opening: Jewish Life in Norway, 7 p.m. Oct. 4 (Wed.) ...... Danish Sisterhood, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Oct. 4 (Wed.) ...... Thor Heyerdahl Lecture, 7 p.m. Oct. 9 (Mon.) ...... Bjug Harstad Lecture, 7 p.m. Oct. 10 (Tues.) ...... Norwegian Cooking Class, 10 a.m.-noon, \$5 Oct. 11 (Wed.) ....... Welcome reception for new SCC director, 4 p.m. Oct. 11 (Wed.) ...... SCC Council meeting, 6 p.m. Oct. 16 (Mon.) ...... Norwegian Cooking Class 10 a.m.-noon, \$5 Oct. 21 (Sat.) ...... Norwegian Cooking Class 10 a.m.-noon, \$5 Oct. 22 (Sun.) ...... Danish Sangaften, 1-3 p.m. Oct. 26 (Thur.) ...... Swedish Cooking Class, 10 a.m.-noon, \$5 Nov. 8 (Wed.) ...... SCC Council Meeting, 6 p.m. Nov. 10 (Sat.) ........ Exhibit Opening: The Troll With No Heart In His Body, 7 p.m. Nov. 18 (Sat.) ......... Danish Sisterhood Bazaar/SCC Sweater Exchange, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 19 (Sun.) ...... Danish Sangaften, 1-3 p.m. Dec. 3 (Sun.) ......... Lucia Festival, 3 PM, Karen Hille Phillips Center, \$5 Dec. 5 (Wed.) ...... Norwegian Christmas Service 6:30-8 p.m., Ness Family Chapel Dec. 16 (Sat.) ...... SCC Nordic Jul Banquet, 6-9 p.m. Dec. 17 (Sun.) ...... Danish Sangaften, 1-3 p.m.

Meetings of the student Scandinavian Club to be announced.



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