

# SCANDINAVIAN SCENE



Issue #1, 2018

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FROM ADAM'S APPLE TO BELLY BUTTON:  
ROSEMALING EXHIBIT  
NORWEGIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL  
UPCOMING CLASSES AND EVENTS  
SPRING SCHEDULE  
ARTICLES FROM MEMBERS  
AND MORE...







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\*Elected Officers

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or call 253-535-7349

# FROM THE PRESIDENT



We are fortunate at the Scandinavian Cultural Center to have a variety of ongoing programs throughout the year. In December we had the Lucia Fest, a Norwegian Christmas worship service, and the Nordic Jul Banquet. Now, as we move into 2018, there are a number

of interesting and exciting programs, classes, and exhibitions that will take place in the SCC. You are invited to participate in any and all of these events.

It is important to know that all of these events take place with a tremendous effort by a number of dedicated people. We need to acknowledge the ongoing work of the SCC's new director, Jason Schroeder. Since his arrival last fall, he has spent numerous hours in preparation of a variety of activities that have taken place in the Center. Jason has been ably assisted by his student worker KD Williams. In addition, numerous dedicated SCC Council members

(more than can be listed here at this time) have added their time and talents to ensure quality opportunities for SCC members and their friends. Elsewhere in this publication you will find a list of upcoming activities taking place in the SCC in the weeks and months ahead.

Without a doubt, as you look through this publication you will find a number of programs and activities that are certain to interest you. Hopefully, you will join with other SCC members and friends in participating in those events that attract your attention.

In addition, it is the hope of all those who plan and carry out the events of the SCC that you might become interested in serving as a council member or volunteer. By doing so, you can help to make future events even more interesting and exciting. This is your invitation to join in helping to make the SCC a tremendous organization!

—ED LARSON, SCC PRESIDENT



## 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 Center 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](mailto:scancntr@plu.edu) or call 253-535-7349.



# SÁMI NATIONAL DAY

by KD Williams

On February 6, 2018, the Pacific Sámi Searvi, the SCC, and PLU celebrated Sámi National Day. Prior to the celebration, I put together a small interim exhibition about the Sámi using a number of artifacts and posters in the SCC collection. This exhibition has since been adapted into a display for the Larsen Gallery display cabinets in the hallway outside the SCC.

During the event, Sámi Professor Troy Storfjell acted as master of ceremonies and introduced the 2008 movie Kautokeino Rebellion and also led a discussion panel after the film with PLU students Hannah Pena-Ruiz, Mathilde Magga, Elle Sina Raanes Sørensen and PLU alumni Lynn Gleason, who are of Sámi descent. There was a lot of work to make the celebration happen, but it was well worth it. Special thanks go to Professor Troy Storfjell for his help and guidance in planning and running this event, Lynn Gleason for providing the film, and Gerda Hunter for her amazing decorative talents.



# CURRENT EXHIBIT

## LESSONS FROM JULIE ANN HEBERT: THE ART OF ROSEMALING

The Scandinavian Cultural Center is delighted to present a new exhibit about rosemaling, utilizing the Stuen Room and the Hildahl galleries. In the Stuen room, we focus on Ms. Hebert, a longtime SCC member and rosemaling teacher. We want to focus on how she thinks about teaching rosemaling and how she relates rosemaling to her family history. In her home, she has room filled with rosemaled objects; the room honors her grandmother. Ms. Hebert sees the room as

a gift her grandmother. The Stuen Room is set up to resemble Ms. Hebert's sitting room. It is not a faithful reproduction, of course. We mean it to invoke Ms. Hebert's home. The Hildahl galleries show the tools and products of rosemaling, as well as some excellent examples of regional styles. The Scene cover photo is from a display in Ms Hebert's home. Come visit the exhibit during our open hours; the exhibit will be on display until August 2018.



## KERSTIN RINGDAHL RETIRES



An important person in the SCC has been Kerstin Ringdahl, the University Archivist, who after 53 years has decided to retire. We want to wish Kerstin a lovely and relaxing retirement!





# DECEMBER EVENTS

## NORDIC JUL BANQUET

by Carlin Harris

On Saturday, December 16 the SCC was swathed in blue and white with birch and evergreen accents for our annual Christmas banquet, or Jultfest, this year celebrating the Centennial of Finland. Approximately 100 guests enjoyed an evening beginning with a social hour featuring appetizers, open bar, live music and a slideshow of Finnish images. The Stuen room was open for guests to enjoy the exhibit The Troll with No Heart In His Body.

The evening provided guests with many opportunities to learn about Finland, her history and culture. The program began with an annual Finnish tradition dating back to the 1300s of a Declaration of Christmas Peace. Followed by a fashion show highlighting young models wearing Finnish costumes from the SCC wardrobe collection, Linda Casperson explained the elements and origins of each costume.

Melody Stepp and Maren Johnson created an exhibit for our evening featuring Finnish items from the collection: Marimekko, Arabia plates, Aarikka jewelry and Iittala glass among other items.

Throughout the evening, guests enjoyed live kantele music performed by the talented Valerie Blessley and Jennifer Pratt-Walter. The kantele is a harp-like

instrument with a distinctive bell-like sound and, for many guests, this was their first exposure to this beautiful music.



While most years the buffet features dishes from all of the Scandinavian countries, this year the menu centered on recipes specifically from Finland including Lanttulaatikko, Rosolli, and Joulutortuu.

Our new SCC Director, Jason Schroeder, shared two very interesting short lectures one on the Kalevala, Finland's epic folk poems, and a Brief History of Finland. And we were able to award the Outstanding Service Award to Gerda Hunter, who, as Hospitality Chair, makes all of the SCC events so beautiful and was responsible for the décor of this banquet as well.

An event like this utilized the gifts of many people, in addition to those mentioned above, it's important to thank Kristine Taylor, KD Williams, the silent auction donors and the many volunteers who helped form Finnish paper stars, decorate tables, trees and hang garlands.

Our banquets serve as an opportunity for our SCC members and community to gather and celebrate our shared culture. We hope you will plan to join us for the Spring Banquet on Saturday, May 19. Even better, please join our committee to share your ideas and talents!







## UPCOMING CLASSES

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**Norwegian Cooking Classes** and **Swedish Cooking Class** are coming back to the SCCC! The cost is \$5 per person and there will be tastings! The classes will be held in the Hatlen demonstration kitchen. Norwegian cooking class are held from 10 a.m. to noon on Tuesday, March 6, Wednesday, March 14, and Thursday, March 29. The Swedish cooking class is held 10 a.m. to noon on Wednesday, March 21. Register at the class.





# UPCOMING CLASSES

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This April, the SCC is hosting two different **rosemaling classes** which complement well our current exhibit! On Saturday, April 7, Elizabeth Estep teaches a Rosemal line work from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. in the SCC.

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You can register for either of these classes online at [plu.edu/scancenter/participating/classes](http://plu.edu/scancenter/participating/classes)

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Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, on April 23, 24, and 25, Marilyn Hansen will teach rosemaling. Marilyn is a respected teacher of the various regional styles of rosemaling and she has been teaching this sequence for many years at the SCC. The classes will be held in the SCC for a flat fee of \$75.



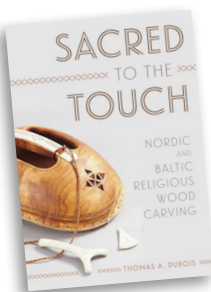
# SACRED TO THE TOUCH: A LECTURE BY THOMAS A. DUBOIS

by Lynn Gleason

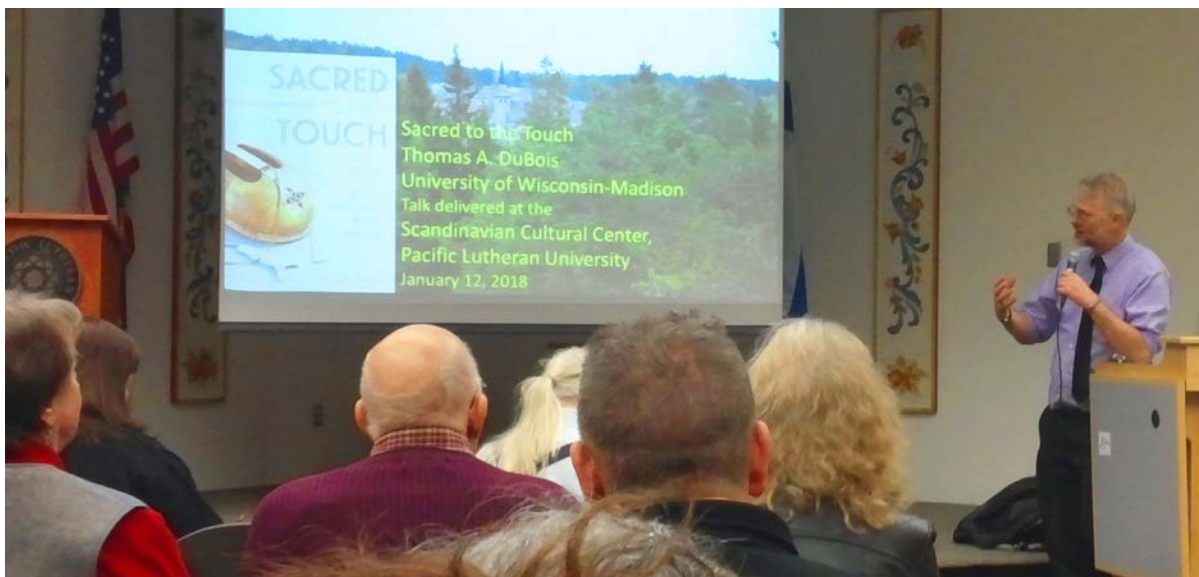
Thomas DuBois, professor of comparative literature and folklore studies at the University of Wisconsin, shared highlights of some of the artists featured in his latest book, *"Sacred to the Touch: Nordic and Baltic Religious Woodcarving"* at the SCC on Friday, January 12.

DuBois' work is an exploration of the material expression of spirituality by woodcarvers of Nordic, Baltic, and Sámi cultures, which are usually viewed as being reserved about their spirituality. Some artwork shown served a religious purpose, for others spirituality was just a theme, and others the artist felt it served as a conduit for energy or communication between humans and earth, and a greater power. The artists DuBois featured included a Lutheran nun in Stockholm, Sister Lydia Mariadotter, who gives Catholic symbology a more accessible and Lutheran interpretation; a Finnish woman, Eva Rynän, who favored using a chainsaw and among her works we saw a gorgeous chapel that included red cedar imported from Washington State,

complete with an altar created from the roots of a local sacred tree after it died, giving it new life and the entire structure giving beauty and function to the Finns' deep sense of connection to nature and the spirituality of trees; we also learned about Laestadian Sámi artist Lars Levi Sunna, who creates his carvings to begin bringing healing between pre-Christian Sámi beliefs and modern Laestadianism by incorporating pre-Christian symbology with a modern church organ, he also created a moveable display to educate about the tragedy of the colonial experience and later adaptation and survival by the Sámi, all as a means of reclaiming Sámi identity and declaring their resilience. It was in part due to Sunna's work that led to the official apology by the Swedish government to the Sámi.



DuBois' book is published by the University of Washington, in full color, both in paperback and hardback.





# 2018 SPRING CALENDAR

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## 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.*

March 6 (Tues) ..... Norwegian Cooking Class 10 a.m. to noon, \$5

March 7 (Wed) ..... Danish Sisterhood, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

March 14 (Wed)..... Norwegian Cooking Class 10 a.m. to noon, \$5

March 14 (Wed)..... SCC Council Meeting, 6 p.m.

March 18 (Sun)..... Danish Sangaften, 1 p.m.

March 21 (Wed)..... Swedish Cooking Class, 10 a.m. to noon, \$5

March 29 (Thur)..... Norwegian Cooking Class, 10 a.m. to noon, \$5

April 4 (Wed)..... Danish Sisterhood, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

April 7 (Sat)..... Rosemaling Line Work Class, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., \$35

April 11 (Wed)..... SCC Council Meeting, 6 p.m.

April 15 (Sun) ..... Western Rosemalers Association Meeting, 9 a.m.

April 22 (Sun) ..... Danish Sangaften, 1 p.m.

April 23-25 (Mon-Wed)..... Rosemaling Class, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., \$75

April 28 (Sat) ..... Norwegian Heritage Festival, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

May 2 (Wed) ..... Danish Sisterhood, 11 a.m.

May 9 (Wed)..... SCC Council Meeting, 6 p.m.

May 17 (Thur) ..... Norwegian Constitution Day, 8:30 a.m. (Red Square)

May 19 (Sat)..... Spring Banquet, 5:30 p.m., \$40 for members.



SCANDINAVIAN CULTURAL CENTER  
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***Don't forget to renew your membership!***