



Midnight Sun

ISSUE

1

VOLUME 26
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Quarterly Magazine for the Scandinavian Club of Regina



According to tradition, the Danish flag appeared at the battle of Lyndanisse on 15 June, 1219

Legend holds it that during the battle, in the Danes' hour of need, the Danish flag, *the Dannebrog*, fell from the sky and gave them renewed hope. The Bishop of Lund raised his hands to the sky in prayer, and the defenders held tight as long as his hands were raised. As the Bishop grew exhausted, he eventually had to lower his arms, and the Estonians were on the verge of victory. Then, a red flag with a white cross fell from the sky, and gave the Danes the victory.



Theme: Life in Denmark

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Wonderful, Wonderful Copenhagen!

Elise, my then 5 year old daughter a.k.a. "Mini" and I traveled to Denmark and Norway in June 2011 on the "Me & Mini World Tour". These two countries were stops number 14 and 15 on our eighteen-country expedition.

In Denmark, we stayed with my wonderful Danish friend, Bibbi, who lives in central Copenhagen. We found the capital city to be clean, modern, fun, artistic and happy.

According to the Legatum Prosperity Index, Denmark is the 2nd happiest country in the world (Norway is 1st, Canada is 6th). Elise and I saw many friendly and smiling faces,

even in the big city of 1.2 million residents. We rode bikes, walked or took public transit everywhere. Cars did not seem as prevalent as in North

America. In fact, I read that approximately 35% of Danes ride their bicycles to work and that there are more bicycles than residents in the city



Bibbi and I get a view of Wonderful Copenhagen

itself. Perhaps all this exercise is what keeps them so happy!! In Copenhagen there are close to 400 kilometres of biking lanes and even a Bicycle Superhighway! This was definitely our type of city...

Bibbi, Allan and Ziggy took us to the tourist hotspots including the Church of Our Saviour,

(Continued on page 6)

Online: <http://scandinavianclubregina.com/Newletter.htm>



From the SCoR Board

Membership

There are currently 170 active SCoR members! Let's keep the number increasing! 54 have already paid the fees for 2013, but 24 of those receiving the magazine and other club services have not paid for 2011 and 2012. Could YOU be one of those? Check your files and make sure you pay your dues at the first possible occasion!

Mosaic

As announced in Mosaic Bulletin no. 3, the Board of Directors decided that joining this year's Mosaic is out of SCoR reach. This does not mean we are not planning for future. We think joining the Mosaic Festival in the future will provide our club with the exposure it needs to grow. We will continue to attend the Mosaic meetings this year and we will volunteer at the 2013 Mosaic to gain experience in pavilion organization and management.

Members' Matters see also pp. 5, 6

Salmon Supper



We had a wonderful turnout for the club's annual Salmon Supper. There were eighty people in total including fifteen guests.



Mildred Ihlen (picture) was honoured for her work with the Norwegian Language classes with flowers and a certificate of appreciation.

After dinner, *Time of Our Lives* performed lively music and many people danced the night away. There was also a silent auction that was very successful and many people went home with treasures.

Thank you to all that helped host this event.

Kim Gillies

2012 Christmas Party



The SCoR Christmas party on Sunday 2 December was well received by some fifty participants present. The food was great as usual. I do not know what Santa had prior to arriving, but he was having a great time. Both with the children and the adults. I really think that he should always be the "man". A big "takk" to Santa and his helper Larry.

John Edwardson

President's Corner

This will be my last President's Corner as my term concludes in March. It has been wonderful getting to know club members better, in particular everyone I have worked with on the Board and Executive.

We have tried to introduce some new elements to the club and some new events. Recently, we explored the possibility of entering Regina's Mosaic Festival, but decided our club is not prepared on many fronts to enter this event. This year we are planning to host a winter tobogganing event as well as a wine tasting night.

Looking to the future, I'm told that our membership numbers are in a good position. I am sure this trend will continue in the future.

At the AGM in March, the club will need members to fill leadership positions, some of which are Treasurer and Vice-President. I ask that anyone who is interested in serving on the Board or Directors to please contact me. It's important to have new people taking a leadership role in the



club, this allows for exciting new growth.

I would like to thank everyone who has helped with club events over the past year, in particular those who helped me with my club duties.

See you in the New Year!

Editorial

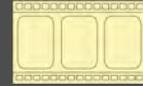


A club like SCoR will always have its ups and downs as far as membership numbers and active participation. After a period, those who have been the backbone of the club's existence fall out for different reasons. It is reassuring to see that SCoR is attracting new members. The fact that some of these members have been made aware of the club through participation in one or more of our activities, is very encouraging. It is a programme of activities and events that defines a club and makes people want to join. That, and a common interest in the cause of the club — in our case Scandinavian background and/or

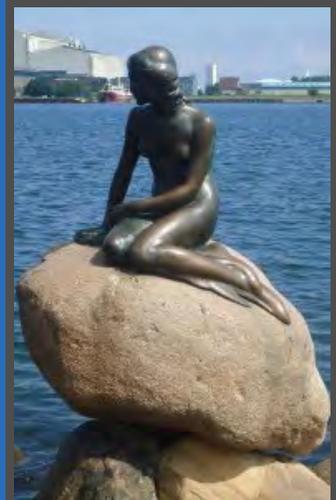
interest in Scandinavian culture.

The Board of Directors are taking SCoR back into the Mosaic Festival. They are doing this step-by-step — a wise approach. Recreating a Scandinavian pavilion will depend on our ability to raise funds to get started, and to get hundreds of volunteer hands working. It will take time to get there, and 'activity' is the word. We must make money on club activity. We must create activities that will attract more members. We must show members' families how worth while a club like SCoR is to help cultivating the origins of peoples of the Prairies — and make them want to join us.

Picture credits



- P.1: (Beech forest) loejstruphovedgaard.dk; (View) C.Mark
- P.2: (M.Ihlen; Santa) J.Edwardson; (Table) L.Bristol
- P.3: (Kim Gillies) J.Gillies
- P.4: (Facsimile) politiken.dk
- P.5: (Frikadeller) M.Mitchell; (Wine glass) Rice Denmark
- P.6: (Tivoli) C.Mark
- Other: Public domain



Denmark = The Little Mermaid



"New"
H.C.Andersen
Fairy Tale Found!



2012 was a special year for local historian Esben Brage of the [Funen island](#).

In the reading room at the National Archives, he stumbled across a small, yellowed, folded piece of paper.

"I've had thousands of historical documents in my hands, so I've developed a sort of seventh sense that says 'whoops, this is something special and not to just be put back again,'" says Brage.

Faced with what appeared to be a copy, the keeper of the archives tried to find "The Tallow Candle" in his data base of Andersen's works. "He said 'this title isn't registered anywhere,'" Brage said.

It was two months later that Brage heard that his hunch had been spot on. He had found Hans Christian Andersen's first fairy tale, written when he was a young lad.

The manuscript is not the original - but it is the only copy of a fairy tale that experts say is Andersen's first.

[politiken.dk](#)



DK World's Climate Pet

The [Climate Change Performance Index 2013](#) report gives Denmark a score of 72.61 out of 100: "Denmark is this year's best performer and ranks 4th behind the top three empty positions. (---)" the report says. But it adds: "A spot of bother remains. In the recent development of energy efficiency Denmark has lost ground on its competitors". The top three positions on the report scale have been left empty. "No country's effort is deemed sufficient to prevent dangerous climate change. Therefore (---) we still cannot award any country with 1st, 2nd or 3rd place," the report says.

The [Danish Ecological Council](#), the [Worldwide Fund for Nature](#) and the [Noah](#) environment movement evaluated the Danish political effort for the report. "Denmark's climate effort is very good, although there is still room for improvement," says Søren-Dyck Madsen of the Ecological Council. "We have demonstrated that it is both possible and economically sustainable to rearrange the energy supply," he says.

Of the 10 largest CO2 emitters, Canada came in 58th place, (---) the United States (in) 43rd place.

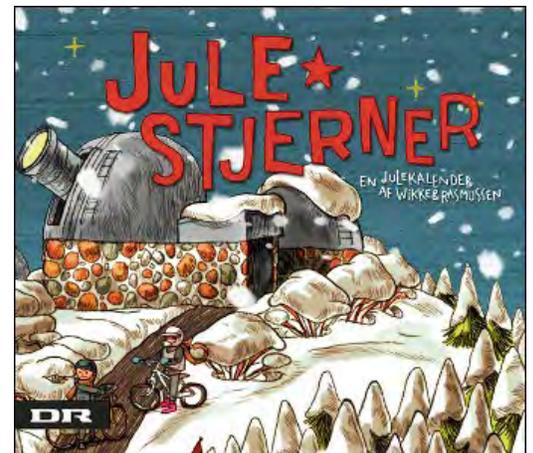
[politiken.dk](#)

After 50 years, one extra day was added to Christmas calendar

Danish TV channel DR1 was breaking new ground by running a 25-part series for their 2012 advent calendar TV series.

Danes of all ages love to start countdown to Christmas by sitting down to watch the television 'julekalender', an Advent calendar show that would earlier culminate on Christmas Eve. Every year since 1962, Denmark embraced the spirit provided by the daily episodes of the Christmas-filled adventure. However, the 2012 julekalender scriptwriters *Michael Wikke* and *Steen Rasmussen* produced the series entitled '*Julestjerner*' (Christmas Stars) a little differently, as the series stretched over 25 episodes rather than the standard 24. That was a decision that Wikke and Rasmussen had agreed to right from the start. "When we were younger, we always felt so sad when the julekalender would end on December 24th," Wikke told DR1. "It'd leave you feeling empty in a way. So we decided that this year, it should finish on December 25th."

[cphpost.dk](#)



Picture: DK1

Cooking Class A Success

Last fall, in cooperation with the Hillsdale Community Association, a very successful Scandinavian Cooking Class was presented. Eighteen people registered for the class. Though most of the students were not members of the SCoR, by the end of the fifth class we had recruited a couple of new Club members.

There were five cooking lessons. Each lesson focused on traditional cooking from a different Scandinavian country. Though it was my hope to have each class taught by a native of the particular country, this was only possible for Norway (Kari Mitchell) and Denmark (Hanna Marshall and Inge Ryan). For the other three countries, I received excellent recipes from the natives (Iceland: Jón & Gudrun Jónsson, Finland: Jim Aho and Sweden: Ida LeRuyet). For these three countries, I taught the classes with the assistance of Ingrid Van Dusen and Michael Mitchell. The classes would not have been possible without the assistance of all of these nine people. Please accept my thanks for all of the help you gave me.

The food that we prepared was varied. In the order in which the classes were taught we learned how to prepare:

Norway: Herring Salad, Tomato Herring, Mustard Herring, Dill Herring, Beet Salad and Chocolate Mousse.

Iceland: Baked Salmon with boiled potatoes, canned and fresh Asparagus and Almond Rice Pudding.

Denmark: Frikadeller (Danish style meatballs – see below) with Cucumber Salad and Æblekage (Apple Cake).

Finland: Klimp (dumpling) Soup, Finnish Beef Stroganoff with Mashed Potatoes and Christmas Prune Cake.

Sweden: Swedish Cabbage Rolls with Pickled Beet Salad and Kladdkaka.

For our last class, we also had a selection of wine to go with the cabbage rolls.

All of the students enjoyed the classes and the delicious food that was prepared. At the end of each class several students would mention to me how much they "loved" this dish or that one.

Hopefully we can offer the class again this year with a native instructor from each of our five member countries. If you or anyone you know would like to teach a class, please contact me.

Greg Swanson



Danish Food Culture

There are three main meals in Denmark: breakfast and dinner are typically eaten at home, whereas lunch for practical reasons has to be eaten elsewhere and often consists of a packed lunch brought from home.



In the morning, most adults drink coffee or tea. Children and young people often eat milk products with cereals such as corn flakes, muesli or oatmeal.

Lunch is generally a cold meal consisting of slices of rye bread buttered and covered with for instance various kinds of sausage, sliced boiled egg or liver paste, a baked mixture of chopped pig's liver and lard of a spreadable consistency.

The evening meal is called *middag*, because it used to be eaten in the middle of the day. It is eaten at home and most Danes make an effort to gather the family around a hot meal every evening.

Do we have
your email
address?



Information by email will reach you faster and can save considerable mailing expenses for the club. Make sure we have your updated information. If we don't already have your email address, you may consider sharing it with SCoR.

Sole
searching?
We can help.



Pacific Fresh Fish
Corner of Robinson & 13th
306-525-9147

(Continued from page 1)

Wonderful...

New Harbor, the Little Mermaid (from Hans Christian Anderson's story) and Amalienborg Palace. Amalienborg is considered one of the greatest works of Danish Rococco architecture and was constructed in the 1700's. It is made up of four identical mansions spread around the octagonal courtyard, named after the kings Christian VII, Christian VIII, Frederik VIII and Christian IX. Palaces (and museums) are not my daughter's preferred visiting



sites so we didn't spend much time there.

Elise's favourite tourist attraction was Tivoli Gardens, opened in 1843 and the second oldest amusement park in the world. Note to those travelers who are considering taking their children to

(Continued from page 7)

Consulary...

Reformation, The Aristocracy, The early and late absolute Monarchy, The late 1800s, The Second World War, The Present and The Future are conveyed in each of his tapestries. In modern, colourful imagery, scenes of historical events as well as kings and queens with period-typical artefacts, symbols and ornaments are interwoven. In the wide edges of the tapestries, the so-called bordure, one can recognise the faces of prominent

Tivoli – plan to spend the ENTIRE day on the amusement rides! Children, no matter age or height, as long as they are accompanied by an adult, can ride on any rollercoaster/zipper/teacup/spaceship they want. Needless to say, I was lucky to have Bibbi with me to share the riding responsibility. Elise was unstoppable.

Myself, I found Christiana to be cool. The freetown of Christiania is located in the district of Christianshavn and was founded in 1971 by a group of hippies who developed their own set of rules, independent of the Danish government. They have tried to 'clean up' the area, but it is still very unique. Christiania is a mixture of creatively built houses, workshops, galleries, music venues, cheap eateries and beautiful nature.

From Copenhagen we took the overnight ferry to Oslo, like so many others – tourists and "locals" alike. The ferry was like a smaller version of a cruise ship – there were games, shops, swimming pools, and restaurants – and was very comfortable. The scenery was breathtaking, especially the fjord approaching Oslo - but that is part of another story...

personalities from the various periods, and in several of the tapestries one discovers "time holes", where contemporary motifs suddenly break into the historical narratives.

The conference concluded with a dinner at the Copenhagen Opera House, a unique and beautiful building right on the waterfront, followed by fireworks. The whole trip was not only a learning experience, but also a truly memorable event and one I will remember for years to come.

A Consular Visit To Copenhagen by Inge Ryan, Honorary Consul, Denmark

In 2005, the Danish Government, Department of Foreign Affairs, invited all the Danish Honorary Consuls and their spouses/partners from around the world to a conference in Copenhagen.

There are over 500 consuls around the world and there were not many no-shows. I attended as one of the ten consuls from Canada. The five days event was full of not just meetings and updates on procedures and administrative issues, but also included visits to various industries, introductions to emerging and established industries such as the alternative energy, including bio fuel, wind energy, the fashion industry, including a visit to the production facilities of [In-Wear](#) and [Mack & Jack](#), two very famous Danish fashion design companies, who also put a fashion show for the group. No samples were given out, though, too bad!!!



In addition, we were hosted by the Prime Minister to a luncheon, but the highlight was a reception hosted by the [Queen Margrethe II](#) of Denmark, where we were all introduced to her Majesty as we entered the fantastic Christianborg castle. Some of the consuls were selected to speak with the Queen, which took place in a robed off area in the middle of the reception area, so the rest of us could walk around and be very close to the Queen. The Queen's husband, [Prince](#)

[Henrik and her son and daughter-in-law, Crown Prince Frederik and Crown Princess Mary](#), were also present.



The reception was held in the Great Hall at [Christianborg castle](#). In the Hall at Christiansborg are 17 quite modern tapestries with one of the greatest depictions of Denmark's history ever made. These tapestries are uniquely beautiful and a great treasure for the Danish people. Although they were gifted to the Queen, she donated them to the state.

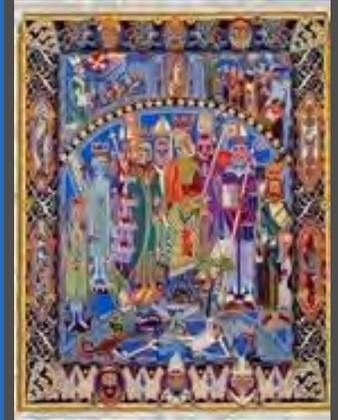
The tapestry series was commissioned for The Queen's 50th birthday in 1990 as a gift from Danish businesses and foundations. The tapestries were made by the tradition-rich French weaving factory, Manufacture des Gobelins, and another French factory, Manufacture de Beauvais, after drawings by the Danish artist, [Bjørn Nørgaard](#).

In the 17 tapestries, Nørgaard tells the history of Denmark and the world over the past 1000 years.

The periods called The Viking Age, The early and late Middle Ages, The

(Continued on page 6)

The Queen's Gobelins



Medieval Era



The Present



The Future

Life in Finland



Give us your own special story

from growing up in the Old Country! - or perhaps from an unforgettable visit? For our last theme issue we want your input to *Life in Finland!*

Please observe

We would like to remind our members that guest numbers for catered events are submitted one week in advance. The caterer will order the food and SCoR will be charged accordingly. If you are unable to attend an event after you have been included in the final numbers, the club will have to bill you for your meal.

Thank you for your understanding

Upcoming Events

Toboggan/Cross Country Ski Event

Date: Sunday February 17th 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Venue: Wascana Park just north of the Broad Street Bridge, on the east side of Broad Street. In addition to the fresh air and the sunshine, there will also be hot dogs and hot chocolate. If the afternoon temperature is colder than minus 15 the event will be postponed until Sunday Feb 24.

Ticket price to be determined. Information later on SCoR Website and Facebook page.

Members and guests are welcome!



Spring Free From Racism

Date: Sunday March 17th

More information later on SCoR Website and Facebook page.

Annual General Meeting

Date: Monday March 18th

More information later on SCoR Website and Facebook page.

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Quarterly Magazine for the Scandinavian Club of Regina

2012-2013 Board of Directors

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Membership Fees

Family membership \$ 30

Single membership \$ 20

Membership starts January 1, expires December 31.

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