



MIDNIGHT SUN

Regina Scandinavian Club Newsletter

October/November 2008

Exciting News!

Our own Scandinavian Language Classes are underway!

Advanced Norwegian Classes started on Thursday September 25th, taught by Mildred. **Beginners' Norwegian classes** are starting in October by our new teacher, Kjersten, to be run on Tuesdays. Call Layla at 586-0406 for more information or to sign up.

Beginners' Swedish classes will be starting on Monday, November 3rd. Call Ida at 757-7708 for more information or to sign up.

All of our classes run from 7 p.m. – 9 p.m., fortnightly.

Scandinavian Languages

Danish, Norwegian (Bokmål) and Swedish are closely related languages, and those who speak one of them understand the others to a certain extent. In addition, all three languages have many dialects.

Faroese and Icelandic are also related to these languages but cannot be immediately understood by Danes, Finns, Swedes or Norwegians. The only exception to this is a few people who speak certain dialects in western Norway. Faroese and Icelandic speakers understand each other without great difficulty.

Faroese, Icelandic and medieval Norwegian belong to the western Scandinavian languages, while Danish and Swedish belong to the eastern Scandinavian languages. Swedish is also spoken on the Åland Islands and along certain coastal regions of Finland. Danish is the official language in Greenland and to a certain extent on the Faroe Islands.

Finnish belongs to a completely different language family than the other Nordic languages. Some researchers consider the Sami language, which is spoken by an ethnic group which lives in the northern areas of Finland, Norway, Sweden and Russia, to be related to Finnish.

On the other hand, Finnish speakers do not understand Sami. Greenlandic is also totally different from the other Nordic languages.

(<http://www.norden.org/web/uk/sprak.asp?lang=>)



We are once again starting into the holiday season with Halloween! Although this celebration is very popular here and widely participated in, in Scandinavia Halloween has only recently been adopted. Instead, there is an All Saints Day in Sweden, Norway & Finland in early November, in memory of loved ones that passed away. All Saints Day is a day of reflection. The custom of lighting candles on family graves is still widely practiced.

Advertisement:



UFF DA!!

CHRISTMAS IS AROUND THE CORNER!!

Enclosed is a coupon, supplied by our Rosemaler, Donna Holbrow, for the Our Best to You craft sale. It is the largest craft sale in Regina with artists from all across Canada. Donna's has booth number is 501 and she invites you to drop by.

10 Interesting Facts about Scandinavia

1. The world's largest population of arctic reindeer herders can be found in Norway!
2. The most popular souvenir in Sweden is the commonly seen "moose-crossing" warning sign along roads in Sweden. Swedes replace thousands of these traffic signs each year.
3. Two thirds of Norway is mountain regions.
4. While Finland is called "The Land of the 1,000 lakes", the country has more than 188,000 lakes with 98,000 islands!
5. Now known world-wide, the inventors of Lego® toys got started in Billund, Denmark in 1932 manufacturing not Lego blocks but stepladders! Billund is now the home of Legoland Theme Park.
6. During Easter in Sweden children dress up as witches and go from home to home asking for candy, similar to Halloween!
7. Sweden is known for innovation and inventions. It is the country that first offered the perfected zipper, the marine propeller, the fridge, the heart pace maker and even created your computer mouse. Not to forget IKEA and H&M merchandise.
8. Reykjavik, the capital of Iceland, has sidewalks that are heated by geothermal heat in the winter. Maybe this takes care of snow-shoveling...
9. In Denmark, a flag is flown outside when it's someone's birthday. If you're not married when you turn 30, you will get a pepper shaker as a gift and men are called a Pepperman while females will be a Peppermaid.
10. In Norway's dark winter during the Polar Nights, the sun is up for only 3 hours a day in some parts, a phenomenon which affects and slows pregnancies of Norwegian women!

Fall Supper

Sunday October 26th, 2008

Luther College

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

& Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m.

Join us in the Scandinavian Club as we gather together for our annual fall supper. A delicious buffet will be served including all kinds of goodies.

The Scandinavian Club of Regina's phoning crew will be contacting you prior to the event for you to sign up. If you have not been called by the week of the event, please call our phoning coordinator Gudrun at 586-7737.

Tickets are \$20 for all participants, to be paid at the fall supper.

Event Calendar 2008

December 6th, 2008 – Christmas Cooking Classes

Come out and join us to cook up a feast for our Christmas gathering. We will be sharing some of our best recipes to create a delicious and traditional Julbord (Smorgardsbord)

We will be starting early morning with the preparation. Call Ida at 757-7708 to take part in this exciting event, either as a student or to share one of your recipes/techniques

Announcements

Let's welcome our new member Kjersten Hordern as she renews her membership and takes on the role as a teacher for the Norwegian beginners classes. Kjersten is a full-time elementary teacher and is of Norwegian heritage. She studied the language in Norway for one year and her skills are impressive.

Welcome home Layla & Mildred from your trip to Norway this summer.

The Scandinavian Club of Regina has, year to date, 106 paid members for 2008.

There are still spots available to sit on the Cultural Awareness Committee so please contact Ida at 757-7708 if you are interested to join.



CLUB INFO

2007/08 EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT	Laureen Smith	525-5183
PAST PRESIDENT	Kelly Nelson	584-2562
VICE PRESIDENT	Dale Folstad	789-3945
SECRETARY	Kim Gillies	

TREASURER	Michael Larson	546-3774
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DIRECTORS

Brian Beck	789-0662
John Edwardson	584-2246
Ida Hallin	757-7708
Kim Gillies	

MEMBERSHIP

Larry Bristol	586-1799
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PHONING COODINATOR

Gudrun M. Jonsson	586-7737
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SCANDINAVIAN CLUB OF REGINA

P.O. Box 37182, Regina, SK S4S 7K4

THE VIKING CENTRE

1307 Ottawa Street, Regina SK

CLUB RECORDINGS

CD's \$1 clearance
Cassette \$1 clearance
Available from Thelma Grant 584-5442
Or Inge Ryan 545-9220

HONOURARY CONSULS

Denmark	Inge Ryan	545-9220
Iceland	Jon Orn Jonsson	586-7737
Sweden	Ronald Shirkey	586-3817
Norway	Heather Goranson	790-9300

MEMBERSHIPS

\$25 Family membership
\$15 Single membership
All memberships are from January 1st to December 31st.
All expire on December 31st.

Contact Larry Bristol	586-1799
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SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are available for persons studying Scandinavian languages and/or culture. Application forms are available by writing to the club or contacting an executive member. Deadline for receiving applications is April 30.

ADVERTISING

Club members may advertise in the Midnight Sun for only \$10. Please contact the newsletter editor by email midnightsunregina@hotmail.com or call 751-4846.