



Midnight Sun



Volume # 31 Issue # 1

Published by the Scandinavian Club of Regina (SCoR)

May 2018

SCoR 2018 Annual Meeting

About 25 people attended the SCoR 2018 annual general meeting April 19, 2018. President Blair Hudyma presented his report, commenting on event highlights in the past year including the revival of the lefse-making and rosemaling workshops.

This year will see some venue changes for traditional Club events. Fishy Fridays have been moved to Ricky's Grill in Harbour Landing, and the annual steak night has moved to Tony Roma's on Albert South and evolved into a Rib Night Fundraiser to be held May 29.

In March, members participated in the Spring Free from Racism event at the Italian Club in recognition of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. In the summer, Greg and Diane Swanson led a cycling trip to Denmark and are making plans for another SCoR trip to Finland in 2019.

"The Scandinavian Club



Board members at the 2018 AGM. Back row (l-r) Lauren Carlson, Andrea Ashton, Greg Swanson, Kelly Nelson. Front row (l-r) Laurel Josvanger, Blair Hudyma, Kate Keys.

of Regina continues to be an important forum for Scandinavian culture in Regina and area, and we thank you for your membership and support," Blair commented.

At the request of the membership, the Club has set up online money transfers for membership payment.

In 2017, the Club participated

in visits to Saskatchewan by the Swedish ambassador Per Sjögren and the Norwegian ambassador Anne Kari Hansen Ovind. Ronald Shirkey retired as the Honourary Consul (HC) of Sweden, replaced by Darcia Schirr.

The Danish consular office in Regina will be closing permanently and Inge Ryan, the HC for Denmark,



AGM/Membership.....	1/2	News Shorts	6/7
Rosemaling Workshop	3	Coming Events	8
Inge Ryan Retires.....	4		
Television Series Review.....	5		

will be retiring. As well, Jón Örn Jónsson has retired from his post as the HC for Iceland, and at this time it appears that the Icelandic consular office will also close.

Blair encouraged anyone interested in applying for scholarship funding to pursue studies in a Scandinavian country to contact the board. The scholarship recipient for 2017 had to postpone their studies so there is a healthy scholarship fund for members to access.

Blair noted the passing of the following members in 2017-18: Tom Adamcewicz, Sheila Carlson, Don Grant, Ronald Mitchell, Edith Sharp and Monica Zasada.

The following people agreed to continue to serve on the board:

Blair Hudyma (completing the second year of his two-year term), Kate Keyes (vice-president), Laurel Josvanger (treasurer and secretary), Andrea Ashton, Mavis de Bruin, Linda Wacker, Kelly Nelson, Lauren Carlson, and Greg Swanson.

Kelly Nelson’s Report on Membership:

As of December 2017, SCoR had 56 couples/families and 26 singles as paid members. Fifty-three members have yet to pay their 2017 dues, and 26 members their 2016 dues. These 26 will be sent a final notice and dropped from the membership list if they don’t pay in the next few months.

Kelly suggested designating

the retiring honorary councils of Iceland and Denmark to be Life Members of SCoR.

Financials:

For 2017, total income is \$5,617, total expenses \$3,821, and net income \$1,796. Gary Carlson has agreed to audit the 2018 financial reports.

The AGM for 2019 will be held on April 11, 2019. As the current venue will no longer be available we will explore the possibility of the meeting being held at St. Marks Church.

Membership News

Our club has moved into the current era by accepting membership payments via electronic funds transfer (ETF). If you want to pay your membership by ETF, please send an initial email to Scordeposit@gmail.com and our treasurer will get back to you by email. Of course cheques are accepted if you pay by mail and we’ll take cash and cheques at club events (but Krona, Krone and Euros are not!) If you are curious about the status of your membership you can call the membership coordinator Kelly Nelson at 306-584-2562 or send an email to:

Scormembership@gmail.com.



Kelly Nelson’s AGM t-shirt!

Rosemaling Workshop

Linda Wacker arranged for Saskatoon-based instructor Alice Barth to deliver a rosemaling workshop in January. Participants learned the basics of the craft and produced a plaque with the traditional rosemaling flower pattern.

Rosemaling, the decorative folk painting of Norway, began in the low-land areas of eastern Norway about 1750 when such upper class artistic styles as Baroque, Regency and Rococo were introduced to Norway's rural culture. At first Norway's painters followed these European styles closely.

People who rosemaled for their livelihood were typically poor city dwellers. After being trained within a guild they would travel from county to county painting churches and the homes of the wealthy for a commission of either money or room and board. Thus rosemaling was carried over the mountains and toward Norway's western coast.

Once farther away from the influence of the guilds, these artists tried new ideas and motifs. Soon strong regional styles developed, and the Telemark and Hallingdal valleys became known for their fine rosemaling.

Rosemaling continued its westward migration all the way to North America. Travelers packed beautifully rosemaled trunks to make their journey across the Atlantic.

Rosemaling went out of style in about 1860-70 but experienced a revival in the 20th century when North Americans of Norwegian origins gave attention to the painted trunks and other objects brought to the new country by their ancestors. Source for historical information: Illinois Norsk Rosemaling Association.



Participants learned a lot in one and a half days! Another workshop is planned for fall 2018. Photos courtesy Susan Bjorndalen.

News Shorts

By Kari Mitchell

Ari Ólafsson will compete for Iceland in Eurovision

The annual Eurovision Song Contest finale is in May, and fans in all the Nordic countries will be eagerly waiting for the TV show which is being transmitted to millions of viewers – some as far away as in Australia!

The Söngvakeppni finals, music competition where the country’s representative in the Eurovision Song Contest is determined, was held in March. Ari Ólafsson was declared the winner with the song Our Choice.



In the first half of the Eurovision competition, all finalists sing their songs. A seven-person jury awards their points

which are combined with the votes of the televoting public. The two highest scoring acts compete again in a head-to head contest, where only the public votes for the winner.

Ari will compete in the first semi-finals on May 8, and if he gets through to the finals again on May 12. Iceland has not been able to get through the semi-finals for the last three years.

Source: Gunnar Jónsson, IceNews
Photo credit: esc daily

World’s first electrified road opens in Sweden

The world’s first electrified road that recharges the batteries of cars and trucks driving on it has been opened in Sweden. About 2 km (1.2 miles) of electric rail has been embedded in a public road near Stockholm, but the Swedish government has already drafted a national map for future expansion.

Sweden’s target of achieving independence from fossil fuel by 2030 requires a 70% reduction of fuel consumption in the transport sector. The technology behind the electrification of the road linking Stockholm Arlanda Airport to a logistics site outside the capital city aims to solve the problem of keeping electric vehicles charged. Energy is transferred from two tracks of rail in the road via a movable arm attached to the bottom of a vehicle. If the vehicle gets off-track, the arm is automatically disconnected.



The electrified road is divided into 50 metre sections, with an individual section powered only when a vehicle is above it. When a vehicle stops, the current is disconnected. The system is able to calculate the vehicle’s energy consumption, which enables electricity costs to be debited per vehicle and user. This “dynamic charging” system – as opposed to the use of roadside charging posts

– means the vehicle’s batteries can be smaller and manufacturing costs lower.

Hans Säll, chief executive of the eRoadArlanda consortium behind the project, said both current vehicles and roadways could be adapted to take advantage of the technology.

Source: Daniel Boffey, Guardian
Photo credit: thedetroitbureau.com

Unique treasure found by schoolboy with metal detector

What was initially thought to be aluminium discs turned out to be a large silver hoard fully 1,000 years old. The find is not the first Viking treasure discovered on Rugen.

The Baltic island of Rugen, now in Germany, has proved to be a fertile hunting-ground for archaeologists and treasure hunters when it comes to finding relics of Denmark's Viking past.

Back in January, Luca Malaschnitschenko, a 13-year-old schoolboy, amateur archaeologist and metal detector, was exploring a field together with a companion, when he found a piece of metal.

At first Malaschnitschenko

thought he'd just found some worthless pieces of aluminium, but it turned out to be three silver coins, reports DR Nyheder (Danish TV News).

Further excavations carried out over the 400 square metre site by a larger team over the following three months brought to light around 600 silver coins and a number of Thor's hammers, brooches, beads, rings and torques.

The coins were minted between 910 and 987 and date back to the reign of King Harald Bluetooth.

At that time Harald was at war with his son, Sweyn Forkbeard, so it is surmised that the hoard



was buried by the king in his flight. Harald was later killed after losing a battle at Helgenæs.

Source: Stephen Gadd, CPH Post Online

Map: Pavlus Travel/Croisi Europe

Killer whale appears in Oslo's harbour

Norway is known, and often criticized internationally, for its annual whale hunt. In April a killer whale seemed to be seeking refuge, with an unusual appearance in Oslo's inner harbour.

The killer whale (orca) was spotted in the water right in front of Oslo's City Hall. The Oslo fjord is far from the hunting grounds for the sperm whales that Norwegian whaling boats go after in waters off the northern coast. The Oslo area isn't known for whales of any kind, but some skateboarders enjoying one of the capital's first spring days got a surprise.

"Somebody yelled 'there's a seal'," Nikolay Næss told state broadcaster NRK. He and some friends were skating near the piers



along Rådhusplassen (City Hall Plaza) when a killer whale not only came into view but flapped its tail and blew a bit in the water alongside the jetty.

"It swam slowly and showed off in a way," Næss told NRK. "I've never experienced anything like it."

Tore Haug, a researcher at Havforskninginstituttet in

Tromsø, said killer whales are common off the coast but not inside the Oslo Fjord. "They mostly eat herring, but

He noted that killer whales also normally travel in pods and are seldom alone: "There may have been more whales that folks didn't see."

Source for text and photo: news-inenglish.no/Nina Berglund

Inge Ryan's 22 Years as Honourary Consul

After 22 years as Denmark's Honourary Consul for Saskatchewan, Inge Ryan is retiring. She will not be replaced, and all consular business will be directed to the Danish embassy in Ottawa.

Inge's career both as Honourary Consul and as a director of trade development for Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership (STEP) has offered her many opportunities and adventures. Her love of adventure is precisely what brought her from Denmark to Canada in the first place. At age 21 she decided to move to Toronto for a position with a Danish export organization.

She later moved to Edmonton where she met her husband. Since he was from Regina, they moved to the Queen City in 1975. Inge became very involved with SCoR, volunteering for many years to help organize Mosaic. In the 1990s she served as president of the Club. She also began working for the Government of Saskatchewan in trade policy.

Building relationships

In 1996, shortly after she began working for STEP, she decided to apply to become the Danish Honourary Consul. It was a year-long process with the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and the Danish government reviewing her credentials. She was awarded the position in large part because of the strong network of government and business contacts she had built

in the province.

Her duties involved helping Danish citizens in the province, including issuing Danish passports in the early days. She also hosted Danish delegations visiting the province, often touring them through Agribition or Farm Progress Show. Her work as an Honourary Consul aligned well with her work with STEP. In both positions she was building international relationships for Saskatchewan.



One highlight she recalls is a visit from a Danish minister of immigration. "Sometimes Saskatchewan could be overlooked," she remembers. "The minister had been to Ottawa where some people had discouraged her from visiting Saskatchewan. But I set up meetings for her with organizations involved in welcoming immigrants such as the Regina Open Door Society. The minister said she got more out of her meetings in our province than

any of the ones in Ottawa. It was rewarding to get positive feedback for Saskatchewan."


Other highlights included two visits to Denmark to attend conferences organized for Honourary Consuls where she was presented to Queen Margaret. She also attended a luncheon with Prince Edward of England on one of his visits to Regina. She remembers him as being very down to earth, joking with her that the Vikings had forced everyone to rewrite the history books once it was discovered that they had arrived in North America before Christopher Columbus.

She and other Honourary Consuls were asked to plant a tree at Government House. If you walk around the grounds on the west side of the building, you can see a tree bearing a plaque with her name.

After retiring from STEP in 2007, Inge keeps busy singing with the Regina Philharmonic and spending time with four grandchildren.

What is the secret of her long and successful career? She was always very determined and prepared, but she believes part of the answer is the nature of Saskatchewan.

"In a small province like ours, you have so many opportunities. In Ontario some of the experiences I have had as an Honourary Consul would never have happened. Here you get recognized more."



Movie Reviews

Finnish Detective Series is Worth Checking Out on Netflix

By Andrea Ashton

Looking to find some Scandinavian fare to watch on television? One series that you may want to check out is *Bordertown*, now showing on Netflix.

Bordertown (called *Sorjonen* in Finland) is an edgy crime drama that is set in Lappeenranta, Finland, a small city that borders on the edge of Russia. The series premiered in October 2016 to an audience of over a million.

Finnish actor Ville Virtanen plays the lead character Detective Inspector Kari Sorjonen, a brilliant detective who is haunted by the horrific crimes that he has seen over the course of his career – as evidenced by Episode One of Season One of *Bordertown*. A young girl is found with her eyes and mouth sewn shut.

Sorjonen is devoted to his wife Paulina, played by Finnish actress Matleena Kuusniemi, and his teenage daughter Janina, played by Finnish actress Olivia Ainali. When his wife undergoes treatment for a brain tumor, Sorjonen makes the decision to move his family from Helsinki to his wife's hometown of Lappeenranta. In search of a quieter life he wants to be able to devote more time to his family and be home for dinner every night.



Characters of Bordertown. Photo credit: Yle Network.

He believes that moving to a small city will allow him to do that.

Unfortunately, the move provides proof that murder and other violent crimes are not just earmarked for the big cities – it happens everywhere. In his new job in Lappeenranta Sorjonen is soon drawn into a myriad of bizarre and disturbing cases. He finds himself torn between the desire to put his family first and obligation to put his particular “skills” in solving crimes to work.

Bordertown may seem on the surface to like other American crime dramas, but it has one striking difference. The series spends a lot of time developing the relationship between Sorjonen and his wife and daughter, and this makes it unique.

While there are other interesting characters in the

show, none are as compelling as Sorjonen. One exception might be the character of Lena Jaakkola, who is played by Finnish actress Anu Sinisalo. Jaakkola, a woman with ties to Russia, is introduced in Episode One as the mother of the young girl who is kidnapped and in this role she provides a worthy challenge for Sorjonen.

The series has 11 episodes in Season One which deal with five different crimes. The different stories will keep you on the edge of your seat as you watch each episode unfold. This series won't disappoint and is well worth putting it on your “to watch list.” According to reports, Season Two of *Bordertown* should begin airing on Netflix later in 2018. The show is in Finnish, but English subtitles are available.

COMING EVENTS

Rib Night Fundraiser

5:30 - 7 p.m.

May 29

Tony Roma's

4450 Albert Street

Fishy Friday

4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

June 1 and July 6

Ricky's in Harbour Landing

4875 Harbour Landing Drive

Nordic Knitting

7-9 p.m.

June 4 and June 18

2600 Arens Road

Activity Room

(Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month. Push the top buzzer for the Activity Room.)

Midsummer Festival

2-5 p.m.

June 24

Candy Cane Park

near the Dinosaur Slide



SCoR volunteers at the Spring Free from Racism Event in March.



The Scandinavian Club of Regina's newsletter *Midnight Sun* is published three times a year. If you have any ideas or stories you would like to share with us please contact Pam Bristol at pam.bristol@sasktel.net

Members of the Board

President - Blair Hudyma

Vice-President - Kate Keyes

Past President - Greg Swanson

Treasurer/Secretary

- Laurel Josvanger

Directors

Mavis de Bruin

Kelly Nelson

Andrea Ashton

Lauren Carlson

Linda Wacker

Website: <http://scandinavianclubregina.com>

Email: scormembership@gmail.com

scoreventsregina@gmail.com