



scandinavian heritage society of kentucky

VOLUME XXXI

May 2011

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SHSK Officers

President

Jenny Berens

Jenny.hilding@gmail.com

Vice-President

Kristen Eubanks

kristen.eubank@gmail.com

Secretary

Kristan Lenning

kristan.lenning@kcts.edu

Treasurer

Asmund Vego

asmundvego@insightbb.com

Editor

Anne Keating

(859) 537-6942

Archivist

Craig Olson

(859) 252-2072

Media Contact

Marion Soule

(859) 266-3448

2010-2011 Event Schedule

Date	Event	Location	Contact
5/14/2011, 5-7 p.m.	Syttende Mai	Immanuel Baptist Church	Jenny Berens
6/25/2011, 4 p.m.	Midsummer	Marie Hosie's Backyard	Marie Hosie

Current Events

On February 25, Laskiainen lived up to its reputation for great fellowship, entertainment and delicious food. Eric and Libby Iverson organized a wonderful evening at Beaumont Presbyterian Church. We had traditional pea soup, both green and yellow, salmon, herring, meat balls, bread and hard tack, cheese and wonderful salads, not to mention a glorious selection of desserts, including fruit soup. Marion and John Soule came early as always to set up tables, make coffee and made the room ready. Hanna Stamper and Hanna Lin, both from Finland, were kind enough to make general remarks about life in Finland and invited questions from the audience. We always learn something new! Libby Iverson had invited the Mountain Dulcimer Group of which Libby is a member to perform for us. You had to be there to take in the beauty of over a dozen dulcimers playing in unison, lively and plaintive tunes. Encore, encore! It was a very enjoyable and interesting program. Thirty-six Scandinavian Heritage Society members and friends attended the event. Thanks to all for making the meeting a great success.

On April 9, members and friends met for the Business meeting at Gethsemane Lutheran Church. Marie Hosie brought daffodils and red tulips for all of the tables. Marion and Don and John also came early to make preparations. The food which everyone brings to this organization always is delicious and something to look forward to along with the fellowship. Those members present voted in the slate of new officers. Congratulations!

President:	Jenny Berens
Vice President:	Kristen Eubanks
Treasurer:	Asmund Vego
Secretary:	Kristin Lenning

We also thank Bill and Mary Hedberg for many years of generous and heart-warming service. They introduced the Society to many new activities over the years, such as the Kite Festival in Georgetown, sponsored concerts, and they revived the Board meetings. Their warm hospitality is a legend in their lifetime! Thank you both for all you have done. Mary and Bill had to leave the meeting early as Mary was not well, and we hope that she has made a full recovery!

We also thank Gustav Pousette and Magnus Geijer for their service. Jan Lindskog was ever faithful for welcoming people to meetings, and we have Dan to thank for bringing the flags and making the famous Glogg! Tom Josephson and Marion Soule have been faithful members of the Board for many years and we appreciate their enthusiasm and numerous contributions to the Society. Tack till alla.



Congratulations to
Gustav Pousette
on being appointed
President of the
Institute of the
International
Auditors at
Ashland Oil.

Gustav and
Danielle and the
children received a
trip to Disney
World in April as
part of the honor
and we are very
happy for them!



Upcoming Events

Syttende Mai

On May 14, the Sytennte mai celebration will take place at Immanuel Baptist Church's picnic ground on the corner of Tate's Creek and Old Mount Tabor from 5 until 7. Bring your own picnic and bring your children and friends young and old as we always provide a variety of cupcakes and ice cream to remember the day.

Midsommar

On June 25, Marie Hosie has graciously invited us to meet at her house. 1644 Donewal Lane (Phone number: 231-8317) for Midsommar. This will be our last meeting until Fall and is always a lovely and memorable occasion.

Lunch with Geggy Ryen and Gunvar LaCour

Geggy Ryen and Gunvar LaCour will be in Lexington and invite us to join them for lunch at the Crown Royal (formerly known as The Campbell House), which is on the corner of Harrodsburg and Mason Headley Roads on May 22. Please contact Bill Hedberg at 272-0640 for more information or to make your reservation for this event. It will be wonderful to see Geggy and Gunvar and to catch up with them!

Member Profile: Marie Hosie

A member of the Scandinavian Heritage Society from the beginning, Marie Hosie has kindly agreed to share information on her heritage with us. Swedes and Finns came early to America in the mid 17th century when Sweden was one of the powers of Europe. New Sweden included territory now found in Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The major Swedish immigration, however, took place in the late 19th century and according to Wikipedia from 1870 to 1910, over one million people came to America from Sweden.

Marie's paternal grandfather, Anders Willhelm Jonahsson

(changed in the US to Johnson), left for America in 1868 from Eketorp in Västergötland (toward the western coast between two large lakes) under the sponsorship of the Evangelical Lutheran church. He was a crofter, and once he got settled, his wife, Clara Sophia Gabrielsdotter, joined him in 1869.

Clara Sophia had worked at the Tidaholm Vulcan match factory until it was mechanized and 3,000 workers lost their jobs. She travelled to America with their three children, Carl Oscar, 9, Elin, 4, Axel Eric, an infant, and they were also accompanied by a young woman of 16 who helped with the children. Intrepid, they came by steerage on ships from Gothenberg on a German ship to Hull, England and then on an English ship to America. While they carried staples such as cheese with them, they were happy that the Swedish purser was able to supply milk for Axel who was ill. They settled in Patterson, New Jersey, 20 miles from New York City, entering through Crystal Garden two years before Ellis Island opened. The Johnsons had two more children in America, Anders Bill and Maple Hilda, Marie's mother, who was born in 1890.

The church found employment for the immigrants, and Marie's grandfather went to work on a farm in Cedar Grove. Patterson, New Jersey, where they lived, was founded by Alexander Hamilton to promote the development of industry in the new country. The Great Falls of the



Passaic River provided energy for new businesses and tax breaks continued for centuries. The area around the falls is now a national park. There were two factories for railroad steam engines with copper boilers, and many Swedish coppersmiths found work there. Others found jobs in **the silk mills as weavers. Elin's husband Charlie later had a feed store and bought the first automobile in the neighborhood.** The Johnsons were active in the Swedish Church and, after it closed, the Methodist church. The grandparents never returned to Sweden again. Thankful that they came to America, they passed on their pride as Americans and thankfulness to future generations who prospered. Carl Oscar later earned two PhDs in Biology and Chemistry and worked for the Food and Drug Administration.

Marie's mother married George William van Varick, of Dutch descent; of the five children who lived, Marie had three older brothers and one younger sister: Irving Clinton, Warren Emmett, Elmer and Shirley. Marie's father descended from two brothers who came to America from Lyden, Holland. During the American Revolution, reportedly one was jailed for remarks against the British and his wife stored supplied ammunition to the patriots. On his own at 12, Marie's father went to work as a pattern maker in the Worthington Pump Works and became Secretary of the Union. When his job disappeared during the Depression, he did whatever it took to provide for his family, even digging graves with a friend for 10 to 15 cents apiece.

Marie remembers eating many creamed foods as she grew up, including lima beans, and remembers baked ham and veal roast for special occasions. At Christmas time, the tree went up **from Christmas Eve past New Years' Day. Then followed the plundering of the sweets on the tree, a special treat! Marie's grandmother was an excellent cook and seamstress and Marie followed in her footsteps, making her 8th grade graduation dress.** People often spoke Swedish in the community, which remains a melting pot of neighborhoods made up of many nationalities also including among others, Germans, Italians, and Irish and now immigrants from Middle Eastern countries as well.

On June 9, 1946, Marie married Norman Hosie and they lived near Patterson. Norm had served as a bomber pilot during the war based in Italy. Later he became an engineer and worked for IBM. In his spare time, he was a gifted wood-worker. (I am the proud owner of a howling wolf.) They had one son, Bruce Norman, also worked for IBM out of Louisville, Kentucky where he resides. Marie and Norman visited Sweden six times and met a cousin whom they found through researching the family tree.

After Norman passed away, Marie became reacquainted with Harold Carter (called Carter) who also grew up near Patterson. They had first met each other in high school. Carter worked for the Ford Motor Company where he installed and repaired heavy machinery used in the manufacture of Ford automobiles. A favorite pastime for Carter and Marie was roller-skating together. Sadly, Carter passed away in 2009.

Marie has a gift for entertaining and has hosted the Midsummer gathering for many years. **Both Norman and Carter supported Marie's interest in the Scandinavian Heritage society and served as gracious hosts along with Marie. We have enjoyed Marie's lovely decorations at many dinners and sampled wonderful food that Marie has prepared.** Over 20 years, Marie has served as Secretary, Treasurer and produced the newsletter. This is the kind of contribution that has kept our organization going! We are grateful, Marie, and salute you for your interest, energy and dedication and generous contributions over the years!



We'd love to
share your news
in our next
newsletter!

Fill us in on
what's new by
calling Anne
Keating at
(859) 537-6942.

Prefer email?
Send your news
to Kisha Geijer at
shsky@shsky.org.



Scandinavian Heritage Society of Kentucky



In Memory

I am sorry to report that Carl Algren, 83, passed away in Lexington on April 9 of this year. Carl and his wife were early members of SHS. Carl had a long and rich life. He was born in Poughkeepsie of Swedish parents, served in the US Navy (participating in the Berlin Airlift) and worked for IBM for 37 years, retiring as a Project Manager in Chemical Products.

Carl was dedicated to public service, creating the Fayette County Volunteer Fire Service and serving in the area of Corrections. He became President of the Blue Grass Chapter on Crime and Delinquency. He also founded Crime Stoppers in Lexington.

We send our sincere sympathy to Carl's wife and family.

Lär Dig Svenska

Spring has finally arrived! Or at least the rain has arrived and upon occasion, it even feels a little warm outside. Let's learn how to talk about spring in Swedish!

If you want to contribute a language lesson in another Scandinavian language, we'd love to hear from you! Just send an email to Kisha at shsky@shsky.org.



Spring!

Vår	Spring
Sol	Sun
Gräs	Grass
Regn	Rain
Regnbåge	Rainbow
Årstider	Seasons
Kall	Cold
Varm	Warm

Months

Mars	March
April	April
Maj	May
Juni	June

Flowers

Blomma	Flower
Påsklilja	Easter Lily
Tulpan	Tulip
Liljekonvalj	Lily of the Valley
Linnea	Twinflower
Maskros	Dandelion

Actions

Springa	To run
Hoppa	To jump
Rensa ogräs	To weed
Klippa gräset	To cut the grass

Övning (Practice)

Jag vill inte klippa gräset.

Det är varmt idag!

Kan du hjälpa mig att rensa ogräs? Jag har förfrusit fingrarna.

I don't want to cut the grass.

It's warm today!

Can you help me weed? I have frostbite in my fingers.