

Finland **I**celand **N**orway **D**enmark **S**weden
 The Scandinavian Heritage Society
 of Kentucky, Inc.

2007 ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Occasion</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
April 14, 6:30PM	Annual Business Meeting	Gethsemane Lutheran Church	Bill Hedberg 272-0640
April 21-22	Georgetown Kite Festival	Cardome Center, Georgetown	Jenny Berens
May 19, 5:00PM	Syttende Mai	Veterans Park, Shelter #4	Bill Hedberg
June 23, 4:00PM	Midsommar	Marie Hosie/Harold Carter Abode	Bill Hedberg
October 13	Fall Banquet	To be determined	
Dec. 15, 7:00PM	Lucia Festival	Gethsemane Lutheran Church	

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SHSK Celebrates 25 Years!!!

We are proud to announce that this year marks the 25th anniversary of FINDS—the Scandinavian Heritage Society of Kentucky Newsletter. (Yep. Volume XXV means 25, and according to social etiquette that means something special. Perhaps a gold or silver anniversary? Hmmm.... Let's call it a "Dried Fish and Boiled Potatoes" Anniversary. Yeah! Let's be honest!!)

For the veterans, 25 years have passed quickly. Folks join as they hear of our organization, participate in some or all events that we sponsor throughout the year, and even stay in touch when life events call our members elsewhere. Our network of friends has grown considerably over the ages, which more than anything has brought comfort.

Of course there have been worries; "Can we confirm a place for Laskiainen? Who can host 17th Mai or Midsommar? Will there be enough children to make Lucia truly meaningful?" And above all, can we maintain consistent leadership and administration to ensure that our Society will not only continue but will thrive? We've seen membership wax and wane as people move to and from the area, and we've marveled at the knowledge that thoughts of and love for our Scandinavian roots have endured in this area for so long. Still, among all of us we ponder... "how long will it last?"

For relative newcomers and old-timers alike we hope that you have found meaningful connections with your Scandinavian heritage. Each of our individual histories is important, and our Society's mission is to support and celebrate those histories as they relate to a common theme; *somewhere and at some time we have been touched by the beauty of a Scandinavian experience*. Maybe through genetic lineage, or perhaps through loving partnership or simple interest, we all feel that common draw of the people, the food, the music, and certainly the ways of life that bring us together at least in our emotions. As a group, we hope that the Scandinavian part of *your* life will continue to be important, and we strive to provide ways to help you continue and expand the ways to make our common heritage a part of your tradition! Be a part of us, and let us all recognize the first 25 years as the beginning of many more years together.

SHSK Officers

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Annual Business Meeting

Join us on April 14 for the Annual Business Meeting at Gethsemane Lutheran Church. This event will begin with the “business” part, including status reports and election of new officers. A potluck dinner follows (so bring you favorite culinary concoction to share), and the evening wraps up with a presentation by SHSK member Christine A. Larson, author of the book *Alternative Medicine: The Savvy Consumer's Guide to Healthcare*.

Georgetown International Kite and Culture Festival



It's time again for the annual Georgetown International Kite and Culture Festival! After several years of experience we again have been asked to come back and join the festivities being held April 21 and 22. We are planning on weaving Scandinavian Christmas heart baskets out of red and white paper, just as we have done in 2005 and 2006. We will also bring maps, some magazines and a poster display. The most important ingredient to a successful festival is of course our members, so please come out and help us set up the booth and sit with us for an hour or two.

We will start setting up the booth at 9:00AM, Saturday April 21st. The festival opens officially at noon on Saturday and goes on to 7:00 p.m. The Fun Fly is scheduled from 5:00 to 7:00 in the evening. On Sunday we plan to arrive at the booth about 30-45 minutes before the event continues at 1:00PM. We will break down the booth and pack everything up at 5.00 p.m.

SET-UP TIMES:

Saturday, April 21; 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Sunday, April 22; 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

FESTIVAL HOURS:

Saturday, April 21, 12:00 to 5:00PM
Fun Fly Saturday, 5:00 to 7:00PM
Sunday, April 22, 1:00 to 5:00PM

This is a great chance to represent our society and to meet new members, so come join us in the April sun! If you have participated the past years, you know that this is a truly wonderful event and I am sure that I will see you this year again. If you have never participated before, this is an excellent opportunity to come out and socialize, enjoy the weather and the company, learn about other cultures, eat exotic foods, and maybe even fly a kite!

All help is VERY welcome and warmly appreciated!

Jenny Berens

SHSK Secretary & GIKCF Coordinator



Did you know... that the word “kite” in Swedish, is “drake,” which means dragon.

Berea International Festival

Berea is a recognized destination for high-quality crafts made by Kentucky artisans, and quaint dining in an idyllic small-town setting. Berea has also become known as highly diverse, and their International Festival certainly underscores such diversity. Scheduled for May 17 through 20, this event features a host of different activities, entertainment, lectures, and exhibitions. Parking and admission are free. For more information, contact: Sune Frederiksen (dantucky@snapp.net)

Moving Into Summer...

The change of seasons is an amazing thing in “da nort country up dere, ja?” The snowpack becomes too soft and thin for skiing, the fjords and mountain lakes are free of ice, and the daylight gets longer and longer (and longer and longer...). We hope you have some exciting plans for your summer season. To help get you warmed up (a-hem) for whatever you have planned, you certainly will not want to miss two featured events of the season!

Syttende Mai: Can you Say HURRA!!!???

The 17th of May marks a very important day in Norway. Known as National Day, it recognizes the long battle for independence that spanned over 700 years, with final success in gaining independence from Swedish rule in 1905. The experience of 17.Mai in Norway is one worth pursuing; parades and celebrations everywhere from the largest cities to the smallest hamlets, citizens bedecked in traditional costume, and children clearly serving as the center of most attentions. Naturally, we expect everyone to ensure that your return flight from Oslo gets you back in time for the ***SHSK Syttende Mai Celebration on May 19!*** Join us again this year as we gather at **5:00PM** at Veteran’s Park, Shelter #4. Bring a picnic meal for yourselves and some cupcakes to share. Ice cream will be provided.

You can find the park on Southpoint Drive just off Tates Creek (outside of Man-o-War). Look for the baseball fields and the Scandinavian flags.



Midsommar

Progressing through May and into June we find the days getting increasingly long. And long means **LONG**—18 or more hours of sunlight each day. Eventually, having spent a month recovering from Syttende Mai, we finally reach the pinnacle of the high-sun season: The summer solstice or Midsommar! Even though Scandinavians will use anything as an excuse to celebrate, they really pour themselves into Midsommar. (And you would too following a winter with 18 or more hours of darkness each day.) The event brings together family and friends for long picnics, waterways are packed with boats and shorelines crowded with swimmers and sunbathers, in Sweden the Midsommarstång (Maypole) tradition takes center stage, and across the north country bonfires are started as evening finally descends.

You will not want to miss our Midsommar event, so mark your calendars for **June 23** and let the force draw you to the home of Marie Hosie and Harold Carter (1244 Donelwal Drive, Lexington). Marie will begin helping interested folks make flower wreaths at 4:00PM (bring some fresh seasonal flowers if you can), and the now-famous pot-luck supper should start around 6:00-ish (bring a palatably preferred plate of something to share). And then at about 9:45 we plan on building a huge bonfire in the front yard and roasting some hotdogs. (Just kidding, Marie....!!)

Wanted: Newsletter Editor!

John Watkins has done a fantastic job being the Newsletter Editor for the past 4 years. Not only has John been editing, printing, and sending out the Newsletter, but he has also written a vast number of articles and curiosas about Scandinavia and the Scandinavian way of living, both in Scandinavia as well as here in the United States. John has also published other SHSKY members' recipes, memories, together with society schedules and news about our members, all with great support from Hege Ravidal.

John has decided to step back from the Newsletter Editor position in order to take a break and let the inspiration and creativity take a rest. This means that SHSKY will have the opportunity to elect our society's new Newsletter Editor for 2007 in the business meeting on Saturday, April 14th. The Newsletter Editor position is elected annually and we need interested members to contact Bill Hedberg before the business meeting.

We all truly appreciate all the hard work John has done. We hope that the new Editor of the SHSKY Newsletter will be as energetic and positive about our society and the newsletter as John has been.

With many warm thanks to John from SHSKY,
Through Jenny Berens
Secretary, SHSKY

The New-and-Improved... Dues, please!

Your membership and generous contributions allow continued support of activities that provide **YOU** opportunities to celebrate a Scandinavian heritage throughout the year. Please note that our dues are *new and improved!* Yes, they're stronger, faster, and now much easier to remember. Use the form below and send to the address shown, or feel free to make your payment directly to Jan Lindskog at the next scheduled event.

Thank You!!!

Membership and Charitable Contribution Form

Dues:

Individual (\$20/person) = _____

Family (\$25/family) = _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED = _____

Contribution:

Please accept my gift of _____

Name/Address: _____

News and Information for the newsletter?

Make checks payable to SHSK, and send this form to: Jan Lindskog, 1083 Meridian Court, Lexington, KY 40504.

May longer days bring opportunities for happiness and personal growth.