

~Finland~Iceland~Norway~Denmark~Sweden~
 The Scandinavian Heritage Society of
 Kentucky, Inc.

2009 FALL ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Date/Time	Event	Location	Contact
October 17th	Fall Dinner Meeting	Spindletop Hall	A. Keating, J. Lindskog, or B. Hedberg
December 12th	Lucia Celebration	Gethsemane Church	Jenny Berens

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Fellow Scandinavians—Join Us for
The 2009 Fall Banquet
 at
Spindletop Hall

This year SHSKY celebrates the Annual Fall Banquet on Saturday , October 17. The event is scheduled from 6:30 till 9, with bar service from 6:30 to 7:30.

If you would like to help decorate the tables and socialize a little bit extra, feel free to join us at 5:30. If you have any Scandinavian decorations that you would like to display as center pieces for everyone to enjoy, please feel free to bring them with you as well.

SHSKY will subsidize the banquet fee with a couple of dollars per member, so the final cost per guest is \$26.00. The SHSKY Fall Banquet is the only event that is intended for adults only. The menu looks, as always, delicious:
 Seasonal fresh fruit on Fresh Salad Greens
 Country Chicken Kiev
 Country Green Beans
 Parslied New Potatoes
 Grandmother's Carrot Cake

The program this year will feature “Scandinavians in Kentucky”. First generation immigrants Jenny Berens and Gustav Pousette, both from Sweden, and Asmund Vego, from Norway, will discuss and compare different aspects of life between their original home countries and the US. Among other topics, education, housing, and transportation will be covered.

To make reservations either call President Bill Hedberg at 859-272-0640 or mail a check to Treasurer Jan Lindskog, 1083 Meridian Ct, Lexington, KY 40504. RSVP by 10/14.

We hope to see all of you there!



H järtligt V älkommen & Trevlig H öst!

Scandinavian Heritage Society of Kentucky Board Meeting Notes

Meeting summary documented by SHSKY Secretary David King from board meeting on June 24, 2009 at 7-9.30pm. Summary has been edited and comments have been added in red by Jenny Berens .



Present: Bill Hedberg, Marian Soule, Ann Keating, Jenny Berens, Tom Josephsen, Gustav Pousette, Magnus Geijer, David King

Office Appointments The Nominations Committee will make the announcement seeking candidates for next year's offices in in the Scandinavian Heritage Society of Kentucky early. Duties and expectations of each office, moreover, will be more clearly defined in new "job descriptions." **Any person interested in serving as an officer should contact the Nominations Committee, which consists of A. Keating, T. Josephsen, and G. Pousette.**

Membership Dues To receive more annual dues, Ann proposed mailing out bills to members. We also discussed handing them out at various society events. In either case, the bill would be presented at least one month prior to our annual business meeting. The suggested membership fees were \$20 individual and \$25 family. We discussed whether to implement the policy next year or pro-rate it for this year.

SHSKY Book SHSKY Membership would include a new book listing the name, affiliation (Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, Icelandic, etc.), address, phone number, email, and other contact information of members who chose to be included. Ann volunteered to work on this book project. **(Please contact Ann if you are interested in helping us with this project.)**

Membership Chairman We discussed creating a new position of Membership Chairman, but decided against splitting its duties from the position of Treasurer, who is most informed on who has or has not paid dues.

Media Representative Jenny noted the advantages of creating a media representative to promote the main SHSKY events, particularly the Laskianen celebration, Syttende Mai, Midsommar, Fall Banquet, and Lucia Fest. Tom raised the question of publicizing not only in Lexington, but also Richmond, Danville, Versailles, Berea, and other nearby towns. Small town papers have two main advantages, often printing community news and an active readership. Bill mentioned a new society contact, new SHSKY member Per Ole Bratset of the Office of International Affairs at the University of Kentucky. **(Please contact Bill if you are interested in helping us with this project. If you have a contact net within Lexington's and/or nearby cities' media world, please do not hesitate to help us build a larger interest for our society)**

Danish Celebration Following up on previous discussions about adding another celebration, preferably Danish, to the annual calendar of events, Tom brought in a list of possibilities. The favorite was the Queen's birthday. This event (April 16) not only falls between Laskianen and Syttende Mai, (and after the tax deadline), but could also be combined with our annual business meeting.

Swedish Concert *Ginny Bowles*, from The Lexington Chamber Chorale, contacted Bill about an upcoming concert of Gary Graden. **On February 6th at 8pm the concert "Music from the Land of the Midnight Sun" featuring guest conductor Gary Graden will be given at Central Baptist Church, 110 Wilson Downing Rd in Lexington. Ticket prices as follows: Adults \$18, Seniors \$16, Students \$8. To order tickets call: LexArts 859-225-0370. Gary Graden was born in the USA and is presently choral director at S:t Jacobs Church in Stockholm. He has also been on the faculty of Stockholm's Musikgymnasium where founded and conducted the Stockholm's Musikgymnasium's Chamber Choir. This choir, together with the S:t Jacobs Chamber Choir have, under his direction, won grand prizes and first prizes in several of Europe's most prestigious competitions in Europe and Sweden. For more information about Mr. Graden, please visit <http://www.choir.nu/dirigent.asp?subj=dirigent&lang=en>. Members who are coming to the Fall Banquet may be able to talk with Gary in person, since Ginny and Gary may be our guests at the dinner. For additional information regarding The Lexington Chamber Chorale's concert schedule and season ticket prices, please go to <http://www.chamberchorale.com/newindexseason.html>. Next upcoming concert is scheduled on October 10th.**

Book Club Ann mentioned the idea of reviving the SHSKY Book club and offered to host the first meeting.

Business Cards One other idea for promoting the society was creating business cards to hand out at events. The cards would have the flags of the Scandinavian countries with society contact info, i.e. website.

End of meeting

Getting to Know SHSKY Better

Mary Hedberg shared a great idea with SHSKY regarding an interesting article series in our newsletter. She suggested that we would publish the stories about our members' backgrounds and connections to Scandinavia. Mary was kind enough to get the ball rolling with a great article about her husband, SHSKY President Bill Hedberg. If you would like to share similar stories about yourself or your family, please contact Newsletter Editor Jenny Berens. We are looking forward to learning more about all our members in the future.



Bill Hedberg

Both Bill's maternal and paternal grandparents came from Sweden. They came to America as young people in their teens and twenties to find a better life. They all arrived at different times. Eventually, all four settled in the Midwest in Iowa and Illinois and became acquainted at the Swedish Baptist Church in Davenport, Iowa. His maternal grandparents (Berglund/Oslund) were married in that church in 1895 and his paternal grandparents (Lindstrom/Hedberg) were married in the same church in 1897. His paternal grandparents (Hedberg) had two sons and his maternal grandparents (Oslund) had twin daughters. And these two sons later married the twins in the same Swedish Baptist Church.



Three years old



Bill with Grandpa Charles Johann and Grandma Louise Hedberg. This photograph was taken when Bill returned from Sweden in 1955.

Bill (Willard) was born in 1932 in Davenport, Iowa to Perry and Rosa Hedberg. He was reared in a strong Christian home in which he was number three of five children. He attended Bethel College in St. Paul, MN and graduated from Augustana Lutheran College in Rock Island, IL.

While serving in the United States Army and stationed in Germany he had an opportunity to visit Sweden over Christmas holiday. This was a thrill for the entire family as it closed a gap of over 50 years since any of the family had been together. The Swedish relatives welcomed him with open arms and were honored to have him. His host family was his grandfather's nephew, his wife and their two teen-age daughters.

His grandfather's brother-in-law (in his late 80s) lived with the family. For two weeks he visited in relatives' homes, attended parties and church meetings. It was a most wonderful time of fellowship. He knew only a few words of Swedish but was able to communicate with the help of the teen-age daughters.

When Bill came home from Germany and was discharged from the Army in 1955 he was married to Mary Lou Houseal (German/Dutch/English, heritage.) in the same church in which his parents and grandparents had been married in Davenport, Iowa. Bill and Mary had four children (one son was killed in a skydiving accident at the age of 19).



Bill and Mary celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on August 6th, 2005.

Bill began his work career as an accountant for the Standard Oil Company and after a few years decided he was a "people person" and entered the insurance business. In 1971 he left the insurance business and launched into development work. He served as Director of Development for several small colleges and non-profit organizations, which is what brought him to Kentucky and Lees College. He left Lees College in 1993 around the time the small colleges in Kentucky became part of the UK Community College system. Bill will never retire as he still puts on a dress shirt and tie every day and now sells Senior insurance.

Bill was first introduced to the Scandinavian Heri-



Bill and Mary in August 2005 with (top row from left to right) son-in-laws Dustin and Steve and son Dan. Second row: Daughter Carrie, Grandson Mike, daughter Lorrie, daughter-in-law Denise, and granddaughters Molly and Megan. Oldest grandson J.D. is missing from the photo; he is in the Coast Guard. The couple is expecting their 5th grandchild in early spring 2010.



tage Society by AJ Hildebrand who was a Chaplain at Lees College. He was delighted to find some Scandinavians to fellowship with and thoroughly enjoyed meeting the Swedes (Ken Hansson, Marie Hosie, Dan Lindskog), Danes (Gunvor LaCour), Norwegians (Marian Soule) and many more. And now he is very excited that there are so many young people in the society who are straight from Scandinavia. He is very devoted to the Scandinavian Society and truly loves the fellowship of all its members.

Membership and Charitable Contribution Form

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



Dues:

Individual (\$20/person) = _____
Family (\$25/family) = _____

Name/Address: _____

Contribution:

Please accept my gift of _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED = _____

E-mail address: _____

(Required for electronic delivery of Newsletter. E-mail and mailing address will not be shared.)

News and Information for the newsletter: _____