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SHSK Officers

President

Jenny Berens

Jenny.hilding@gmail.com

Vice-President

Kristen Eubanks

kristen.eubank@gmail.com

Treasurer

Asmund Vego

asmnundvego@insightbb.com

Newsletter Editor

Anne Keating

(859) 537-6942

Archivist

Craig Olson

(859) 252-2072

2013 Event Schedule

Date	Event	Location	Contact
5/18/2013, 5 p.m.	Syttendai Mai	Immanuel Baptist Church Picnic Shelter	Jenny Berens
6/22/2013, 6 p.m.	Midsommar	Anne Keating's Backyard	Anne Keating

Lucia 2012

Every year, the Luciafest comes together as an amazing and joyous event. We are very fortunate to have members young and older who are familiar with the traditions, and eager to participate, to make suggestions, and to help in many ways. The celebration comes together after two rehearsals, one the night of the event. The cast put on another lovely and tuneful presentation. Those participating included:

DIRECTORS Kristie Eubank & Anne Keating

NARRATOR Asmund Vego

LUCIA Alexa Witt (Norway)

PARTICIPANTS Hanna Lake-Bullock (Sweden)
Lucas Lake-Bullock (Sweden)
Adrian Finley (Norway)
Jordan Anderson (Sweden)
Ryan Cooley (Norway)
Theodore Ehrenborg (Sweden)
Thomas Ehrenborg (Sweden)
Layla Angeles Plakosh (USA)
Isaac Angeles Plakosh (USA)
Emma Sophia Pousette (Sweden)

ADULT CHOIR Richard Ehrenborg
Margret Readdy
Gustav Pousette
Anne Finley
Kristie Eubank
Kathy Blomquist
Jaci A. Williams
Helene Lake-Bullock

ORGANIST Annette Mathy

Meanwhile, in the dining room, Marion, Don and John Soule and friends set up tables, decorated the room with an astonishing collection of linens and candles from the Nordic countries, and members and friends brought a delicious assortment of special foods for a Jul Bord. Dan and Jan brought the glogg, and cider was available as well. It was a beautiful festive evening for visiting with friends new and old. Tack so mycket till alles for den trevlig natt. God Jul!

Lucia 2012

By Anne Keating



Laskiainen 2013

By Anne Keating

Our Laskiainen event took place on Saturday, February 23, at Beaumont Presbyterian Church, to celebrate Finland and partake of some fine pea soup and other delicious Scandinavian foods. Members brought their favorite version of pea soup or other covered dish to share for the potluck dinner. Jenny Berens stopped by to introduce us to Oleana and Linnea, two very pretty, sweet baby girls born to Jenny and Andy on December 10, 2012.



Eric and Libby Iverson presented a program on the Sami culture based on their experiences with Sami hosts during their visit last August to Arctic Scandinavia with the Vesterheim Museum. Eric exhibited beautiful oil paintings inspired by the visit which illustrated the unique and beautiful area. A video and narrative by Sami spokespersons both delighted and informed us about a fascinating indigenous group of people who live at the top of Norway, Sweden, Finland and Russia in an area approximately the size of Sweden, according to Wikipedia. Their language is part of a group that includes Finnish and Hungarian among others. While some Sami engage in the traditional reindeer herding, others follow coastal fishing agriculture, metal-working and sheep herding.



Laskianen, continued.

Some of us grew up thinking of the northern indigenous people as "Laplanders," but this is not a favored term today. This group was known to Tacitus as early as 93 CE and mention is made in Icelandic eddas and Norse sagas from the 11th to the 14th century. Petroglyphs and archaeological remains found in the area where the Sami reside suggest that they may go back as far as 10,000 years. Some people think that they followed the receding glaciers inland at the end of the last ice age. It's interesting to find that Finns do not refer to themselves in Finnish as "Finns," but the Swedes reportedly began to do so, while referring to the Sami as "Laps" until the modern era.

The Sami were somewhat protected from the plague in Europe due to their self-sufficiency, but later, as populations expanded, they experienced discrimination and "re-education" much as have many indigenous populations around the world. After World War II, the people acquired their own flag, anthem and more participation in government. With the discovery of natural resources in the north, the lands of the Sami have been subject to outside developments. Some 30,000 Sami reportedly came to live in the United States and settled generally in the same areas as did others from their countries of origin. Some even came by arrangement of Canada and the United States to work with the Inuit on herding Reindeer. February 6 is an important date in their history, as in 1917, the Sami Congress first met in Trondheim, Norway, and the date has been celebrated since 1992. Perhaps one of the most well known Americans of part Sami heritage is Renee Zellweger.



Membership Dues

If you have not paid your annual membership dues, please send them to our treasurer, Asmund Vego.

Family Membership \$30
Single Membership \$25

Your membership dollars are used to directly benefit the society. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Asmund Vego
715 Franklin Ave.
Lexington, KY 40508
Ph. 859-351-6537