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2016 Event Schedule

Date and Time	Event	Location
October 22, 2016 6:30-9pm	Harvest Dinner	Spindletop Hall
12/04/2016 3-5pm Practice 12/10/2016 7-9pm Program	Luciafest	Gethsemane Lutheran Church

FALL HARVEST DINNER

Please join us on October 22, 2016, from 6:30 to 9 pm, for the Harvest Dinner at Spindletop Hall. Ieda and Heidi Herman, will join us and speak to us about Iceland. Ieda grew up in Iceland and during WW II married an American Sailor. They raised 10 children, and Heidi is the youngest. Ieda also had a career in interior design, teaching and writing. Heidi owns a telecommunications company and is a writer as well. Her works include children's books on Icelandic myths, and most recently an Icelandic cookbook. They bring photos from their trips to Iceland which they revisited this summer. Intrepid travelers, they have hiked over glaciers, gone paragliding off of the southern cliffs, and visited caves. Mark this on your calendars! The Please make your reservations by calling Anne Keating (537-6942) or Kristie Eubanks (576-9456) by October 18. Cost for the evening will be \$28, with SHSKY defraying service fees and tax for members.

Theodore Ehrenborg has kindly agreed to allow SHSKY to print a copy of his winning essay. As a 9th Grader from Henry Clay, he won the 27th annual essay contest offered by the Office of the Secretary of State and Alison Lundergan Grimes presented Theodore with a \$1,000 scholarship on March 18. The topic was the First Amendment and role of news media in elections.

PROTECT FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

For over 200 years, the First Amendment, which includes freedom of the press, has protected ordinary Americans and businesses from government control. If we gave away this protection by allowing government to demand news coverage of elections, we would harm future generations. Government would tighten its control over the news, which would strangle liberty and democracy. It does not matter that a law requiring news outlets to outline election issues might increase the number of voting Americans; this law would violate the First Amendment guarantee of a free press.

Supporters of this law may argue that government has the responsibility and the power to prevent bias in the press. However, historical precedent does not support this assumption. Government can only regulate the press by punishing it in court for libel, maliciously false statements. In other cases, government has neither responsibility nor power to regulate the press. (First Amendment Center, 2015). While government may believe that an action is in the public good, totalitarian governments also control the press. A democracy cannot survive if government has absolute power to do what it thinks is best for society.

Even if it were in conflict with the First Amendment, this law would not significantly increase the number of voters. Today, news already comes from many sources. If citizens want to learn about election issues, they can easily find information. However, “only about 37 percent of people eligible to vote actually cast ballots” (McDonald, 2015). This does not happen because of lack of knowledge on candidates’ views on issues. Instead, citizens have difficulty voting or do not want to vote. They feel that their vote does not matter, so voting is a waste of their effort. Our government should create laws to fix these problems instead of spending time on an ineffective and unconstitutional proposal.

If government requires the press to give an unbiased summary of election issues, they will give a biased version instead which will harm citizens’ understanding. All news services, despite their type, have some bias. For example, conservatives believe CNN is too liberal; the opposite applies to FOX. If government forced these news services to outline the issues, they would spin the news to support their biases. Even if the proposed law convinced citizens to vote—which it does not do—they would not learn any unbiased information, which was the main purpose of this law.

Besides these problems, this proposed law has serious flaws because it is unquestionably unconstitutional. A Florida law stated that if a newspaper attacked a political candidate, the newspaper must publish the candidate’s response. This law used nearly the same methods and reasoning as the proposed law. The Supreme Court declared this law void in *Miami Herald Publishing Company v. Tornillo* by a 9-0 decision, which shows that the Florida law utterly violated the First Amendment (Oyez, 2015). The Supreme Court would not see a difference between the Florida law and the proposed law. Both laws are enormous infringements on freedom of the press.

Overall, the proposed law that requires news outlets to outline political issues should not become law. Government has no power to create this law. Also this law will have no effect on most non-voting Americans. In fact, the press will present information about elections in a biased manner. As Supreme Court Chief Justice Warren Burger (1974) wrote regarding a nearly identical law, "The implementation of a remedy [for the press's bias and lack of information] . . . brings about a confrontation with the express provisions of the First Amendment." By denying this law, we encourage liberty and democracy, just as the Founding Fathers did. (References Omitted.)

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

This summer, Bill and Mary Hedberg's grandchildren Savannah and Sullivan Peters were in the News when they served Sgt. Jervis Middleton lemonade from their road side stand! They look up to policemen, their mother Carrie said, and were very impressed that he stopped to talk to them!



On June 18, SHSKY members met at the home of Anne Keating to celebrate Midsommar. The weather was sunny and comfortable as we dined on the porch. The food was outstanding as always, and we had great fun visiting. Tack till alla!

It was great fun to hear that a Swedish Bluegrass group would be in town around the time of Midsommar. Everyone pitched in to bring the band some Midsommar specialties and we had 16 at Willie's Locally Known restaurant to hear the Dunderheads. They had won the prize for the best Bluegrass band in Europe! It was a wonderful spontaneous event! See you on the 22d!



Please join us in remembering Marion and Don Soule on their 66th wedding anniversary! They met at the University of Washington and were married in Everett, Washington near Seattle in 1950. While Don worked on his Ph. D. in Economics at the University of Wisconsin Marion worked in an insurance office and remembers walking to work in Madison one day on a path between the lakes when the temperature was 37 degrees below zero, quite a change from Washington State! After 3 years, they moved back west to California where Don taught at Humboldt State College 300 miles north of San Francisco in the area of the Redwoods. From there, the Soules moved to the University of Illinois at Champagne-Urbana for 4 years and then came to the University of Kentucky. Don did research and taught, and Marion pursued a musical career, playing the organ at Southern Hills Methodist Church for 37 years. We have been the lucky beneficiaries of Marion's talent many times when Marion played organ for the Luciafest. Congratulations, Don and Marion!

News has just come my way that David and Ginny Bowles celebrated their 46th anniversary this year! As a special gift last year, their daughter Laura and her husband promised them a trip to Scandinavia to be planned for this summer. David and Ginny cruised to all of the capitals as well as to some of the surrounding countries.

David and Virginia met in high school in St. Louis Park, Minnesota while singing in the production of Oklahoma. Ginny sang the Lead, Laurie, and David sang the villain, Judd. Later, Ginny attended St. Olaf, and majored in music (St Olaf is renowned for its music program) and David attended Stanford University. After college they married and moved to Boston where David attended Harvard Divinity School. Ginny got her Master's degree from the New England Conservatory. Both sang for the Boston Symphony in the Tanglewood chorus, in Symphony Hall during the winter season, and in the Berkshires during the summer. Sometimes there were concerts in New York City at Carnegie Hall as well. They lived in Boston 14 years.

Ginny was director of choral arts at Malden High School, north of Boston. Under Ginny's guidance and encouragement, young people who did not have many advantages performed in several musicals: Guys and Dolls, South Pacific, and Oklahoma, for example. Once social media came to life, many of those students from the 1970s looked up Ginny on Facebook and told her that she had changed their lives. Several went on to careers in music. How gratifying that must be!

In 1984, the Bowles moved to Lexington and have lived here for over 30 years. David was Development Director for the Salvation Army in Central Kentucky for 17 years. He is now President of the Kentucky United Methodist Foundation. Ginny has taught at Asbury College in the Music Department for 18 years, continues to teach part time and has taught at the Seminary. Ginny has performed for SKSKY at Lucia more than once and we feel so fortunate. What fun it is for me to learn about the lives and talents of our members! Congratulations, David and Ginny on your 46th Anniversary!



Ginny and David “sailed up the Skagerak and down the Kattegat to wonderful, wonderful Copenhagen.” They also visited Amsterdam, Oslo, Stockholm, Helsinki, Tallinn and St. Petersburg.

By the way, Ginny reminded me that there are two upcoming events that members might enjoy. On Saturday, October 15 at 7:30, at Second Presbyterian Church, the Lexington Chamber Chorale will perform The Magnificent Magnificats. One of the composers is Arvo Part from Estonia. Also Ginny Bowles will solo in the Jean Berger piece.

On Friday, October 21, at 7:30 in the Singletary Center, the Lexington Philharmonic will play a concert entitled Finlandia and the Northern Lights. These upcoming performances speak to the creativity of our Scandinavian heritage.

These sound like very special evenings. I hope many of us will be able to attend.