

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

## 2009 SUMMER ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
June 27th	Midsommar	Marie Hosie's Garden	Bill Hedberg or Marie Hosie
October 17th	Fall Dinner Meeting	Spindletop Hall	Ann Keating or Bill Hedberg

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## *Come and Join SHSKY for ~ Midsommar Firande 2009 ~ ~ Midsummer Celebration 2009 ~*



Once again, Marie Hosie has graciously offered to host the SHSKY Midsummer Celebration in her lush and generously sized back yard. Marie's house is located about a 15 minute drive from the northern part of New Circle, so it is close to town, yet out in the calm and relaxing Lexington 'countryside'. The midsummer celebration is one of many wonderful events that SHSKY arranges during the year and probably one of my (many) personal favorites.

Marie usually gathers blooms and flowers from her garden ahead of time and invites all SHSKY members, friends and guests to come early to participate in the traditional flower wreath binding. It is truly a nice experience to sit and craft among a group of friends while enjoying the summer's warmth, fragrances and bird song. The binding starts at 4 in the afternoon and Marie usually asks that participants bring extra flowers for the wreaths. This is a great tradition to share with the younger members of our society.



Our pot-luck dinner begins at 6 in the evening and the weather generally cooperates so that we can sit and eat outside. It is always nice to share some good traditional Scandinavian food with our fellow SHSKY participants, but dishes from other nations are appreciated as well. I remember that a bucket of KFC disappeared pretty quickly during one of our pot-lucks last year. It seems that everyone is not as fond of pickled herring and cabbage as some of us are (more left for us fish-lovers, right!). We always need extra help to set up the seating arrangements and with the clean-up after the festivities are over, so please feel free to arrive a bit early or leave a bit after the celebration has ended.

Finally, we have been talking about the possibility of building a real Midsummer Pole for a few years now. If any of our readers has suggestions regarding design or building plans, etc, feel free to contact any SHSKY officer with your ideas. If you have internet access, I would recommend a photo search on Midsummer poles (midsommarstång in Swedish) using any general search engine, such as Google or Yahoo, to take a look at some beautiful and inspiring architecture. For additional facts and snippets of information regarding Midsummer traditions, please feel free to go to our newsletter archive on SHSKY.org and download issue 3/2008.

*We hope to see all of you on June 27th!*

*Hjärtligt Välkomna & Glad Midsommar*



## *Editor's Notes from SHSKY Annual Business Meeting 2009*

Dear members; this is my report from the SHSKY Business meeting that was held on April 16th of this year. Since the SHSKY Secretary, David King, could not be present in person, I took the official meeting notes.

### Meeting Summary

#### 1) *Election of 2009 SHSKY Officers and Board Members*

The Election Board, which consisted of Tom Josephson, Anne Keating and Gustav Pousette, verified that all the officers from 2008 were prepared to remain in office for one more term. Thus, the 4 SHSKY officers for 2009 are: President Bill Hedberg, Vice President Magnus Geijer, Secretary David King, and Treasurer Jan Lindskog. All officers were voted through unanimously.

Both the Newsletter Editor, Jenny Berens, and Archivist, Craig Olsen were voted through. I assume that Marian Soule remains the SHSKY Media Contact, but I can not recall if this was brought up or not. Marian mentioned **before the meeting that she has had a hard time getting our ads into the newspapers' free advertising sections lately.** If any of you readers have contacts or suggestions, please let us know so that we can bypass this problem and reach a larger group of people.

In addition, a new board position was acknowledged and created; SHSKY Web-Master. The choice here was simple, Kisha Geijer. Kisha (and Magnus) is not only hosting our web-site, SHSKY.org, for free but she also designed it and **updates our schedule, posts the newsletters and photos, and helps me convert the newsletter onto a more 'post friendly' format.** I would like to insert here that some web-site followers have contacted Kisha with complaints regarding a lack in updates. Please keep in mind that Kisha can only post information that the Officers provide her with. If any information seems to be missing, Bill Hedberg is the best person to contact regarding updates. Some years we have the entire schedule set at the beginning of the year and some years, like this year, the dates are set just about a month or so beforehand. To ensure that communication will run more smoothly between Office and Web-Master, it was decided that the Secretary (D. King) shall contact the Web-Master with scheduling updates as soon as possible after each board meeting. If the Secretary is not present at the board meeting, the Treasurer (J. Lindskog) has graciously accepted the responsibility for reporting crucial information to the Web-Master, unless the Vice President (M. Geijer) is present. We hope that this will improve the information flow between Office and members, friends, and guests.

Finally, the Election Board accepted to remain in position for one more term.

#### 2) *Midsummer Celebration 2009*

Marie Hosie offered (via Bill's cell phone) to host Midsummer Celebration-09 in her garden on June 27th.

#### 3) *Change of Bylaws*

Gustav Pousette's suggestion to change the bylaws so that SHSKY is not bound to schedule the Business Meeting in April was voted through. The thought behind this suggestion was to be able to combine the BM with any other SHSKY meeting or event. According to the SHSKY by-laws, our society is bound to meet 5 times a year. If we decide that these five meetings are Laskiainen, 17 Mai, Midsummer, Spindeltop, and Lucia, the BM is counted as the 6th meeting and can therefore be determined a 'floating' meeting as the new bylaws stand. The Secretary, David King, is to update the SHSKY Bylaws.

#### 4) *Treasurer's Report*

We did get the opportunity to cover the SHSKY Treasurer's, J. Lindskog's, Report, which is published here. As can be see, we really need to improve SHSKY's budget—*please pay your dues!*

##### **Checking Account**

**Beginning Checking Account Balance January 1, 2008**

**\$587.40**

##### **Incoming funds:**

**Dues and Dinners, and Donations**

**\$1,452.21**

**Total Income:**

**\$ 2,039.61**

##### **Expenses:**

**Filing fee, Swedish Counsel, gifts, supplies,**

**-\$1,606.67**

**banquet fees, newsletters, church rentals, etc.**

**Ending Balance December 31, 2008**

**\$432.94**

**Our current balance is around \$115 and we have about 20 paying members!!!**

## ... and Finally — A Quick Thank You!

We thank all our officers and Board members for all the work they did for SHSKY through 2008 and all the work they are prepared to do in 2009. On behalf of SHSKY, I would also like to thank all of our 'rock members' who are working hard on helping the society with anything and everything that is needed. We would especially like to send our thanks to Eric Ivarsen for arranging Laskiainen-09, Marian, Jon and Don Soule for working exceptionally hard before and after each and every event, Marie Hosie, who is such a generous and tireless hostess, Anne Keating and Marian Soule for attending the Officers' meetings 'just because', Mary Hedberg for being a great board meeting supporter and for spoiling us lucky board members with fantastic treats, Annette Mathy for playing the organ for Lucia-08, and Kisha Geijer for a stunning web-site. I am sure that everyone we would like to send special thanks to has not been listed here above, but you are certainly not forgotten and the rest of us really appreciate all your hard work!

If you get the chance, please take time to thank these members in person next time you see them!



SHSKY through  
Jenny Berens



## A Report from SHSKY's 2009 Syttende Mai Celebration

The 2009 SHSKY celebration of Syttende Mai could not have been scheduled to a more beautiful day or place. We gathered at the Immanuel Baptist Church Picnic Grounds on Saturday May 16th, and most of us were in awe at the sight of the luxurious picnic shelter complete with running water and large, clean benches and tables. The shelter was surrounded by birdsong and greenery and, to our youngest member's delight, a large play ground complete with sandbox and jungle gym.

A TV had been brought along to the picnic so that we could follow the Preakness Stakes race while munching on cup-cakes, ice-cream and other goodies. Mary Hedberg had made the cutest little cup-cakes in the shape of ice-cream cones! Before the race aired, Bill moderated the business meeting and a few important decisions were made, as can be seen on the previous page. We also got the pleasure of meeting some new friends among all the old ones! The meeting was pretty lively, and we got to welcome a new Finnish family, the Hoppu's, to our member base!

All in all, we had a great time and we hope to visit the Immanuel Baptist Church Picnic Grounds again!

## Syttende Mai—Norway's Constitution Day



Following the defeat of Napoleon's troops at the Battle of Leipzig in October 1813 and the Treaty of Kiel of January 1814, the Crown Prince of Denmark-Norway, Christian Frederik, resident viceroy in Norway, founded a Norwegian independence movement. The most likely goal of the young Crown Prince was ultimate re-unification with Denmark. His initiative was successful, and a national assembly at Eidsvoll was called. The assembled representatives were appointed at churches throughout Norway. During late winter and spring of 1814, the constitution was written, ratified by the assembly on May 16th, and signed the following day, the latter date now celebrated as the Norwegian Constitution Day.

The Norwegian constitution was inspired by the United States Declaration of Independence (1776) and the French revolution (1789) and the subsequent U.S. and French constitutions, and is considered one of the most radically democratic constitutions in the world at that time. The principle of dividing power between executive, legislative and judicial branches was directly inspired by the US and French systems.

A deviation from the republican constitutions of France and the US was the retention of a king. Importing republicanism was seen as trying to emulate the French and Americans directly, something the lawmakers at Eidsvoll sought to avoid. The choice of Monarchy as state form would also facilitate reunification of Denmark-Norway, something the Crown Prince was not alone in seeking. The king's power was however severely curtailed. His absolute veto over laws was removed. The council of Eidsvoll not surprisingly chose Crown Prince Christian Fredric as king. He was thus chosen, and as such a king by the grace of the people rather than by the grace of God. In a Europe where almost all countries were ruled by absolute monarchy this was seen as extremely radical. The right to vote was extended to all men who were either farmers possessing their own land, civil servants, or urban property owners. With this, about half of all Norwegian men earned the right to vote.

(Taken from Wikipedia)





## Help Needed!

Our society has been expanding quickly and we are reaching new members and friends fast, both thanks to modern technology and by the more traditional word-of-mouth. As all of us know, it is easy for newcomers to be intimidated when joining an already established group. **You may feel that there 'is not much left to do', but you could not be more wrong! The Officers and Board members are, just like you, volunteers and we need all the extra help we can get.** If you see a problem, we are interested in hearing about it, but we are even more interested in getting help solving it.

There are several small things you, as a SHSKY member, guest or friend can do:

- Pay the membership fee (!!!) and/or donate a little extra - Bring guests and potential new members to meetings and events - **Advertise SHSKY and don't forget to mention our web-site!**
- If you receive the newsletter both via mail (expensive) and e-mail, please inform the Editor, Jenny Berens
- Arrive early to events to help setup chairs and tables and/or stay after the end of events to help with clean-up
- Offer rides for members that live at your end of town and have a hard time driving in the evenings
- Share your digital photos from events with Kisha or Jenny for posting on our web-site or newsletter publication
- Write a short article or share a Scandinavian recipe for the newsletter (e-mail to Jenny, please)
- Help with printing and/or mailing newsletters and invitations
- Come with suggestions for free or reasonably priced event locations

## Recipes from Home – Toast Skagen

### Ingredients (serves 4)

4 slices of white bread  
11 oz peeled shrimp  
4 tbs mayonnaise  
1 tbs Dijon mustard  
5 oz whitefish roe  
2 oz fresh dill  
1 lemon  
butter

Cut the crust off the bread slices and sauté the bread golden brown on both sides in a small amount of butter. Place on paper towels. Cut large shrimp into smaller pieces. Save a few nice shrimp and dill sprigs for garnish. Chop the rest of the dill finely and mix with shrimp, mayonnaise and mustard. **Divide the mix on the toasts. Shape the whitefish roe into 'eggs' and place on top of each toast.** Garnish each toast with a couple of shrimps, a sprig of dill and a slice of lemon.



Enjoy!

## Membership and Charitable Contribution Form

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

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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: \_\_\_\_\_