

OCTOBER, 2019



COMING EVENTS

Saturday, October 5 – Scandinavian Fest
Saturday, October 12 – Annual Meeting
Sunday, December 8 – Lucia Pageant

SCANDINAVIAN FEST –

Saturday October 5, 2019 10 am – 6 pm. The 29th annual indoor Scandinavian Festival will be held at Ronald Reagan Elementary School, 4225 South Calhoun Road, New Berlin. Entertain lineup features Smörgåbandet, our duo of Mary Stetson and Carol Gustafson, the Norwegian Dancers, and more. There will be Scandinavian food, many vendors, genealogy help, and fun for children. Be sure to stop by our information booth. See Nordiccouncil.com for more details.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF DIRECTORS –

Saturday October 12, 2019 at 1:30. Our Annual Meeting will be held at Redemption Lutheran Church, 4057 North Mayfair Road (Hwy. 100, just north of Capitol Dr.) Wauwatosa, Wisconsin.

The business meeting will include Election of Directors and approval of Bylaw changes. Please see page 2 for information. We will review this past year and look at plans for the coming year.

Program update--Treasured in many Swedish homes, the Dala Horse has become a symbol of the Swedish province of Dalarna and of all Sweden. Come back to the 1600s with us as SAHSWI member **John Elliott** traces the beginnings of this colorful wooden horse. Over the years, horses have appeared in different colors and new siblings (roosters and pigs) have been added to the family. Any Dala horses, roosters and pigs invited to attend the meeting with you for show and tell.



After the program, be sure to stay for the traditional Swedish FIKA.

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WEBSITE – Our website SAHSWI.org has a new webmaster, Jan Ehrengren. He has already made a number of changes and his efforts are greatly appreciated. Check it out! Thank you, Jan!

JULOTTA – The Board of Directors met on September 21 and the immediate future of Julotta was on the agenda. The directors considered many factors including the expense, the availability of SAHSWI members for welcoming and ushering and “putting the coffee on,” which involves setting out the food and clean up. The directors also considered the long history of Julotta in Sweden and the shorter, but significant, history of Julotta in Milwaukee, which has been an important part of our Society’s work to keep history and customs alive. So it was with great reluctance that the Board of Directors voted unanimously to cancel Julotta for 2019. In reconsidering its future, the Board would like to hear from you and what Julotta has meant to you and your family. Replies may be sent to Barbara Froemming.

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS – A nominating committee consisting of George Lofgren, Bev Wenzel, and Joann Kreimendahl was appointed by President Froemming. The committee's report, which has been accepted by the Board, nominates the following:

Three-year terms: Martha Bergland, Jan Ehrengren, John Elliott
To fill the remaining two years of Todd Michalek's term: Karin Konrad

BYLAW CHANGES – Enclosed is the complete copy of the revisions to the bylaw as presented to the Board by the Bylaw Committee consisting of George Lofgren and Joann Kreimendahl. The Board unanimously approved the revisions.

MIDSOMMAR 2019 –

Our second year at Heidelberg Park was another success despite a brief In addition to the flower crowns, majstång, dancing and Swedish food, we had for children and, of course, KUBB. The dishes that the food staff prepared was and the events staff outdid themselves to add to the success. The brief rain of a problem because there was plenty of shelter. Thanks to Heidelberg Park our willing workers.



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KANELBULLENS DAG – Did you know Sweden has an entire day devoted to cinnamon buns? *Kanelbullens dag* (Cinnamon Bun Day) started in 1999 when the Home Baking Council (*Hembakningsrådet*) celebrated its 40th anniversary. The day was created to celebrate Sweden's rich tradition of *bullar*, or buns, and now it has become a tradition held every year on **October 4**.

GET TO KNOW THE BOARD – PRESIDENT, BARBARA FROEMMING.

Mormor and Morfar -- My grandmother came from the county of Jönköping and my grandfather from the county of Kalmar in Sweden. At age 10, my grandmother was brought by a cousin to live in Nebraska with an aunt and uncle in 1880.

My grandfather came to America at the age of 21 in 1892. We don't know for sure where they met, but in 1898 they were married in Peoria, Illinois, where my mother and her three sisters were subsequently born. My Mother, Helen Florence Johnson (b. 1906) and my father, Alva Victor Gibson (b. 1899 in Kentucky of English/Scots Irish/Pennsylvania Dutch heritage), were married in Peoria, Illinois, where I was born in 1933.

I grew up in Peoria, then attended the University of Wisconsin in Madison where I met my husband, Jack (of German descent), who was from Milwaukee. Thus, my Milwaukee life began. I taught home economics in the Milwaukee Public Schools and Glendale Middle School for almost 30 years. I have two sons, John who lives in Bethesda, MD, and Jim, who is here in Milwaukee.

Because I wanted to visit Sweden, I signed up for Vasa language classes where I met Bev and Del Wenzel and my association with SAHSWI began.

AMERICAN SWEDISH INSTITUTE—The Norse Saga room. This fairy-tale room was originally designed for Anders Andersson, a wealthy Swedish businessman for his Stockholm apartment (early 1900s?). After being presented at Statens Historiska Museet in Stockholm. it was sold to Curtis L. Carlson and installed at his headquarters in Minneapolis. Thanks to his family foundation, it is now at ASI and will be open until July, 2022.



The Viking exhibit continues until October 27. See asimn.org.

Sound the näverlur! Julmarknad opens the first weekend in December!

Swedish American Historical Society of Wisconsin, Inc.

Call 414-352-7890 or 262-781-6113 if you need further information or email us at:

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