

## **Annual Report - Midsommar Celebration Committee 2022**

This year's Midsommar Celebration was held on Sunday, June 26 at Bavarian Bierhaus/Heidelberg Park in Glendale. Thirty-five SAHSWI members and friends set up activity areas and welcomed 125 visitors to the festivities.

Traditional activities included preparing the majstång and creating floral crowns. Children were entertained by face painting, making Swedish crafts, and taking part in sack races and a tug of war. The Bavarian Bierhaus offered Swedish food items for sale, including Swedish meatballs and mashed potatoes, as well as cake with strawberries and whipped cream.

Some new activities were also added to the afternoon. At the History Table guests enjoyed learning about the early Swedish settlers in Southeastern Wisconsin. SAHSWI members and friends also donated a large quantity of Swedish items to a new Sale Table. Profits from these purchases were added to the SAHSWI fund established to create and install an historical marker at St. Anskar's Church in Hartland. The marker will recognize the role of Gustav Unonius and other Swedish settlers in the area.

Other additions were new bilingual signage, small Swedish flags that were distributed as the majstång was raised, expanded children's crafts and activities, strolling fiddlers, an improved PA system, and recorded music that was played throughout the afternoon. Many visitors commented on the friendly and relaxed vibe they experience each year at SAHSWI's Midsommar celebration. One disappointment, though, was the cancellation by the Lykkeringen Folk Dancers.

Members have made suggestions for next year's Midsommar celebration. The ideas under consideration include establishing an information table by the Swedish Genealogy Research Group, expanding children's activities to include a mini-tournament with prizes, organizing full Kubb games, and reconfiguring the entertainment portion of the program. More suggestions are always welcome.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who created another successful Midsommar celebration, and thanks in particular to those who headed up sections: Brent Erickson, Jan Ehrengren, Bev Wenzel, John Elliott, Karin Konrad, Danielle Jackson, Sonia Hummel, Martha Bergland, Jim Uhrinak, Liza Ekstrand, Mary Stetson and Carol Gustafson.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Taylor and Karin Konrad