

SWEDEN HOUSE SOCIETY

Scandinavian Community Centre

Burnaby, B.C.

Vol. 1/09

November 2009

Sweden House Society has several groups/clubs under its umbrella, and they include SWEA, Swedish Cultural Society, Swedish School, Finlands-Svenska Klubben, Runeberg Lodge #124, Runeberg Chorus, Norden House Society, Nordic Youth Association, and the Swedish Press.-

Upcoming Events at the Scandinavian Center:

Jazz at the Scandinavian Centre:

Sunday, November 8, 2009 – 4-8 p.m.

This jazz concert features “Company B” (a group who will perform songs from the 40’s. Also performing is the Korsu Choir. Tickets are available at the door of the Scandinavian Centre. The tickets include dinner.

Adults: \$25, Veterans \$15, Children 12 and under \$12. To reserve call the Center at 604-294-2777, Robert Toren 604-980-9241, or Kristiina Morrison at 604-540-2500.



Lucia 2009

Saturday, December 12, Scand. Center (2 shows)

1:00 p.m. – 1st show (coffee served)
Adults \$10 (members) \$15 non-members.
Children 12 and younger \$5.

6:00 p.m. – 2nd show (dinner served)
Adults \$35 (members) \$40 (non-members).
Children 13-19 \$20, 12 and younger \$10.
Questions: Contact Yvonne Spence at (604) 980-8866.

Christmas Decorating:

Wednesday, November 11 @ 2:00 p.m.

Come and help decorate the upper floor of the Centre for Christmas.

Christmas Fair, Scandinavian Centre

Saturday & Sunday, November 21 & 22

Traditional Christmas fair with emphasis on Scandinavian gifts, etc. Baked goods such as cardamom buns, saffron buns, cakes, cookies, etc. Enjoy a lunch of open-faced sandwiches, good coffee, baked goods and live music.

Fall Clean-up Day, October 31

Twice a year volunteers from all Houses come to help with a major cleaning of the Scandinavian Centre, indoors and outdoors. We start with a breakfast and then work our way through the ‘to do’ list from the office. On October 31st about 40 people showed up to make the Centre look spic and span. Thanks to everyone who showed up.

Swedish School:

Swedish Language classes for adults are available at different levels. The groups meet at the Scandinavian Centre once a week. Contact Astrid Switzer at 604-228-9160 if interested.

Swedish School for children ages 3-13 - some classes on Thursdays and some on Saturdays. Contact Annie Kwick @ 604-924-5497.

Julottan – Christmas Day @ the Danish Church

Swedish church service at 7:30.

SWEA in Vancouver

SWEA (Swedish Women's Educational Association) is a global non-profit organization for Swedish speaking women who live or have lived abroad.

SWEA's objective is to protect the Swedish language, support and inform about our culture and traditions. SWEA is both a meeting point and safety net for its members, providing support and making life abroad easier.

SWEA supports education through scholarships and various projects with a Swedish connection. Today SWEA has approximately 8,000 members in 77 local chapters in 35 countries on five continents.

The organization was started by Agneta Nilsson in Los Angeles in 1979.

SWEA Vancouver gives out a scholarship every year – the so-called “Undergraduate Scholarship for Swedish Language Studies”. SWEA Vancouver also supports other Swedish organizations in Vancouver, and is a member in Sweden House Society.

SWEA Vancouver Program – Fall 2009

TBA	Film Evening
TBA	Shopping evening at Dyrberg Kern
November 21-22	Christmas Market
November 27	Silent Auction to benefit the Scholarship fund
December 18	Christmas Party

Finlands-Svenska Klubben:

Finlands-Svenska Klubben started in March 1958. The membership fee was \$2.00, now almost 50 years later it is only \$10.00. The goal for the club was to keep “old country” traditions and language alive and to try to keep in contact with fellow countrymen. The meetings and minutes were all in Swedish but that changed to English in 1979 because we had members who did not understand Swedish. We had a very active club in the 60s and 70s. We had 3 or 4 dances a year and an annual Christmas party for both adults and children. We held masquerades, hard-time and Halloween dances, and a fashion show with men dressed in women's clothing. We started a choir in 1963 and a bowling league in 1968 with 60 bowlers. We held fishing derbies, picnics and camping trips. Cultus Lake was the destination every weekend in the early 60s. In 1972 we arranged what we called a pig roast on Protection Island outside Nanaimo where many members had built summer homes. There are few immigrants coming from Finland now and our members are aging. We still hold the picnic and the children's Christmas party. Our monthly meetings are held at the Scandinavian Centre, and our club has representatives on both the Sweden and Finland Houses to be able to keep up with the many activities there.

Swedish Cultural Society:

The Swedish Cultural Society is one of the Swedish groups within the Sweden House Society which have the Scandinavian Centre in Burnaby as their “home”, together with Danish, Norwegian and Finland House Societies. Most of their events take place at the Scandinavian Centre, where the Sweden Room is the venue of membership meetings, as well as the classroom for adults and children wanting to learn Swedish. Sweden Room also hosts their library with many books written in Swedish by Swedish authors. As a member, you are welcome to borrow books.

The Swedish Cultural Society was formed to:

- ❖ Preserve the traditional cultures of Sweden (and the Norse countries) in art, music, dancing, and to keep abreast of the newer cultures;
- ❖ Promote the understanding of Swedish cultures in Canada;
- ❖ Keep an affiliation with the Swedish people in Sweden and to promote understanding of Canadian cultures by them;
- ❖ Preserve the Swedish language among Canadians of Swedish extraction;
- ❖ Hold lectures by persons outstanding in their fields of culture.

Olympics 2010:

There are many activities being planned at the Scandinavian Centre during the Olympic games. Contact the Sweden House Board or the Centre office if you are willing to help during these events.

SWEDEN HOUSE EXECUTIVE:

President:	Astrid Switzer
Vice-President:	Jan-Wilhelm Skollsberg
Treasurer:	Gun Pennink
Vice-Treasurer:	Hakan Telenius
Secretary:	Ann-Mari Rovatti
Vice-Secretary:	Dorothy Carlson



(Stockholm drawing by Lennart Osterlind)