

Message from your President - Kristi Gustafson

Three of our larger annual events - Walpurgis, our garage and antique sale, and the Midsommer Festival, are behind us, and thanks to wonderful volunteers, they were all successful. New Sweden doesn't have regular meetings, so I hope our members take the opportunity at such events, when possible, to visit and get to know each other.



Communication is critical to an organization like New Sweden and we're at a point in technology that allows for a variety of ways to communicate. Your board is working to stay current in technology and use communication methods our members prefer. Some of our members do not use the internet and others only want communication via the internet. This is going to require us to have different mailing lists to ensure all of our members receive information.

There has been discussion and requests to produce another Membership Directory; the existing directory is from 2013-2014. In the next month, we will send out a form. I hope each member will complete and return it (to avoid a follow-up call). We will ask if and what information you want included in our directory. We will also ask how you want to receive written communications.

Looking ahead, we are planning our Craft Day and holiday party for November 19th, prior to the hectic holiday season. Last year we dipped candles and felted wool. This year, we'll again do candle dipping and are looking to add one or two other activities. If you have an idea, hobby, or craft you are willing to share, please contact me.

The garage sale was such a success, Karin Olson is already planning next year's event. Many of our members are skilled gardeners so we're expanding the sale to include plants. Plan ahead this summer/fall to split those tubers or dig up extra bulbs to donate to the sale next spring.

Tickets for our Kräftskiva Party are now on sale (see page 7). SWEA is joining New Sweden and Scandia Lodge to put on the event this year. Last year we reached our maximum attendance and expect this year to sell out well in advance. Don't delay purchasing your tickets.

See you at Kräftskiva,
Kristi Gustafson
President
503-663-2772



Marianne Bratt's father's ship "Dagmar Bratt" (named after his sister), which delivered grain from the Swedish people to the starving people in Holland.



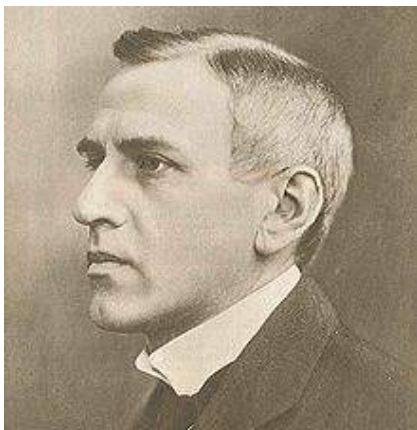
Vasaplatsen, Gothenburg

Marianne Bratt review, May 21, Part 1/2

New Sweden members received a warm welcome from Harmoni Lodge at our joint meeting for Marianne Bratt's presentation of her family's shipping business. Marianne wore a traditional dress with red design on the top and blue and yellow on the bottom recognizing the period from 1814 to 1905, when Sweden and Norway were unified.

In 1877, Marianne's grandfather started a wholesale company importing coal and coke from England, and later the shipping company - Adolf Bratt & Company. Marianne's father, Gustaf Adolf Bratt, took over the shipping business when his father, Adolf died in 1934. When WWII began, the business had twenty ships; by the end of the war ten remained. The ships were sunk mostly by torpedoes from Nazi U-boats, but also sea mines and bombs from planes.

During the war, Bratt and Company shipped supplies and food to the Allies. The Swedish people donated grain to the starving people of Holland. It was shipped on the "Dagmar Bratt", named after her father's sister. It had the name of the ship, a Swedish flag, and two Red Cross emblems lit by floodlights on each side to show it was on a humanitarian mission. Luckily, it was never sunk. After the war, the Dutch people gave the Swedish people lots and lots of tulip bulbs as a thank you. These tulips were planted in many parks in Gothenburg, most likely in other cities too. Marianne showed a photo of Vasaplatsen in Gothenburg, with a fountain surrounded by tulips. The fountain is special to Marianne's family as it was donated by her father. *(To be continued in the next newsletter)*



**Swedish classical composer
Wilhelm Stenhammar**

As a result of our website, New Sweden was contacted by Bess Holloway who lives in Colorado. Bess "discovered" classical Scandinavian composers several years ago and wanted to share her love for this music. She has donated several CD's to New Sweden in the hope that more people will become aware of the extensive amount of classical music created by Swedes. We would like to make these CD's available to our members and hope New Sweden can establish a "library" so our members can borrow the CD's, as well as books, and DVDs. If you are willing to manage the library or would like to check out the CD's, please contact Kristi Gustafson: 503-663-2772.



Nordic Northwest Midsummer Festival in Oaks Park on June 10

The forecast predicted thunderstorms, but visitors enjoyed a mostly rain-free day as well as delicious food and many wonderful performances by the Swedish Youth Group (led by Catarina New), Portland Scandinavian Chorus and many others.



Nominees for Scandinavian of the Year included New Sweden nominated Dave Alford (Finnish) as well as Skandia Lodge nominated Hans and Anna Lundin (also members of New Sweden). Last year's New Sweden nominated winner Sandra Miller provided winner Dave Alford with this year's prize. Congratulations to Dave, Hans, Anna and all the other nominees.





Hans Lundin

ING 2 cap - A story about an ancestor's military service (by Warren Aney), Part 2/2

This is a continuation of an article published in the May newsletter. An excerpt from the first article: "I wore a special Swedish Ing 2 cap to this event (The Member Appreciation Meeting) to see if anyone noticed it. The gentleman seated next to me at this meeting did notice the cap's ING 2 marking and asked if that referred to a Swedish army unit."

Hans Lundin

The gentleman that noticed and identified with this cap is Hans Lundin of Lake Oswego. I arranged to meet with him to learn more about his story. Hans told me he was born in 1933 in the small town of Kumla southwest of Stockholm. In 1955 he joined the Swedish Army's Ing 1 (Ingenjörregemente 1) in Stockholm. He enlisted for the Swedish Army's service requirement of one year of active duty followed by one month of active service every few years. In 1960 he reported to Ing 2 in Eksjö for one of these months of active service.

Hans came to the United States in 1961 and worked on construction of industrial projects in several states, as well as in Israel, Jamaica and Canada. Retiring in 1999, he and wife Anna moved into their home in Lake Oswego. Hans and Anna have been members of the New Sweden Cultural Heritage Society from almost its beginning.



Digging Göta Kanal

Petter Svensson Gamm

My ancestor Petter Svensson was born in Småland in about 1785. His family lived and worked on the Johanstorp farm estate southeast of Lenhovda. Petter joined the Swedish military in 1808 and the estate owner established a required soldatcroft (soldier's home) for Petter and his family. Petter was probably given the last name Gamm to distinguish him from all the other Petter Svenssons in his unit. Petter's unit served in 1809-1813 campaigns against Russia and Napoleon and returned home in 1814. They had served in the last of Sweden's war battles.

Petter Gamm then served with the Göta Engineer Regiment in Eksjö. This regiment dug the Göta Canal, linking the Baltic Sea with the North Sea. The canal was completed in 1832, Petter retired on a pension in 1833, and spent his last years living with his family in the Johanstorp soldatcroft. His grandson Sven Peter Karlsson and wife immigrated to Minnesota in 1879. Their oldest son, my grandfather Charles Oscar Carlson, was born on the ship while it was crossing the Atlantic Ocean.



Umeå's smiley heart sculpture, city hall and the picture museum

Stieg Larsson

Daniel Lindström

From the City of Birches rises a cultural capital – How design, literature and music from Umeå took Sweden by storm (By Jimmy Granstrom)

Umeå is often considered the capital of northern Sweden. It is popularly known as the City of Birches, which dates from 1888 when an enormous fire devastated large areas of the city. When Umeå was rebuilt, wide avenues with birches planted along them were used as fire breaks to prevent fires from spreading. Today, Umeå is Sweden's 12th most populated city and one of the fastest growing ones in the country. In 2004, Umeå and Riga (Latvia) were the European capitals of culture for that year. The Umeå Institute of Design is considered one of the best of the world, and art can be found in The Picture Museum and all around the city. One of the most famous installations is the smiley heart sculpture, which is Umeå's cultural capital symbol.

Umeå was also the home town of Stieg Larsson, author of the Millennium trilogy. The books were published after his death in 2004, and have sold over 80 million copies worldwide. All three books have been adapted as motion pictures in Sweden, and a Hollywood version of "The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo" (the first book in the series), featuring Daniel Craig and Rooney Mara, was released in 2011. Umeå is also well represented in the world of music, with artists such as Lisa Miskovsky and Eva Dahlgren. Miskovsky co-wrote "Shape Of My Heart" for The Backstreet Boys, and Dahlgren's album "En blekt blondins hjärta (A Bleached Blonde's Heart)" has sold over 500,000 copies and is one of the best-selling albums in Sweden's music history. In 2004, Daniel Lindström won the first season of the Swedish Idol contest, and his debut single "Coming True" (written by Jörgen Elofsson who also wrote hits for Britney Spears and Kelly Clarkson) was the most sold single in Sweden in 2004. Lindström co-wrote several songs on his second album "Nån slags verklighet (Some Kind Of Reality)", which peaked at #3 on the album list in 2006. He is currently involved in the recently built Nox Studios (<http://www.noxstudios.se>), featuring one of Stockholm's largest recording rooms, in Järfälla 20 minutes from the city center. Whether it is design, literature or music, Umeå certainly deserves to be referred to as one of Sweden's cultural capitals.



Fogelbo yard sale set-up crew



Karin Olson



Katarina Braaten

Many thanks to all the volunteers who made the Fogelbo yard sale a success in June!

Sofia Talvik concert at Nordia House on September 22nd at 7.30pm

On October 3, 2012, New Sweden had the great pleasure of arranging a concert with Swedish singer Sofia Talvik. Unfortunately, her concert occurred on the same night as a U.S. presidential debate. Nonetheless, the people attending the concert enjoyed a great performance by a modern day flower child with a voice resembling Joni Mitchell, blending sparkle and melancholy with a twang of Americana. You may listen to her music at <http://music.sofiatalvik.com/>.

We're happy to have Sofia back in Portland for a Nordia House concert on September 22.



Portland 2012



Photo by Jonas Westin



<https://www.facebook.com/sofiatalvikmusic/>



<https://www.facebook.com/newswedenportland/>

2017 Events Calendar Summary

August 15-20th: Trollbacken, Swedish Language and Culture Camp, children ages 7-13

August 19th, 7.30pm: Saturday, Annual Kräftskiva Crayfish Party, reservations required

September 22nd, 7.30pm: Sofia Talvik concert at Nordia House

October 21st: Nordic Northwest Scanfeast Auction and Gala

November 19th: Craft Day and holiday party

December 2nd and 3rd: Saturday and Sunday, Scanfair at Portland's Memorial Coliseum

December 9th: Lucia festival

New Sweden, Skandia Lodge and SWEA invite you to

Bengts Kräftskiva



Swedish Cuisine, Kräfftor, Music, Singing, and Dancing!

**In the garden at Fogelbo 8740 SW Oleson Road – Portland, Oregon, Saturday, August 19, 2017
7:30 pm to Midnight**

Please bring your own beverage and one (per family or party) potluck dish serving 8-10 people. Coffee and lemonade provided.

Ticket prices

\$20 per person for New Sweden, Skandia & SWEA members

\$25 per person for non-member guests

Last day for reservations (if tickets are still available) is August 12. Payment must accompany reservation request. Please make your reservation by calling or emailing Vicki Cole, 503-255-6697 or them0therthing@aol.com.

Please make checks payable to "New Sweden" and mail to:

New Sweden c/o Vicki Cole

P.O. Box 80141

Portland, OR 97280

More info also at: www.NewSweden.org

(cut here)

Please return this Kräftskiva reservation form with your check

Contact Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____ Potluck Dish: _____

Number of member tickets _____ X \$20. = _____

Number of non-member tickets _____ X \$25. = _____

CHECK TOTAL: = _____

**Must be a member of
New Sweden, Skandia
Lodge or SWEA**

Please list names for the tickets on the back of this form. TACK!!

New Sweden Cultural Heritage Society
PO Box 80141
Portland, OR 97280

2017 Membership Renewals and New Memberships!

Memberships are renewed each year and run from January through December. Please use this form to renew now and save the cost of mailing a separate membership renewal request! You may also renew for multiple years by multiplying the annual dues amount by the number of years desired and indicating your intention on the form.

Thanks for supporting New Sweden with your dues!

Membership Renewal or New Member Form

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Email: _____

Single \$20.00 Family \$35.00 Patron \$50

Scholarship Fund donation (\$_____)

Make checks payable to "New Sweden" and send to Membership Attn: New Sweden Cultural Heritage Society, PO Box 80141, Portland, OR 97280. Membership questions, please call: (503) 644-0787, or at www.NewSweden.org