



Gult och Blått

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Lucia Fest

The 2017 Santa Lucia Christmas program will be at the Kirkwood Community Center in the Robert Reim Theater on Saturday, December 9th @ 3 pm. Doors open in the theater lobby for the Swedish Butik and Kaffestuga at 2 pm. Tickets are only available at the door and will be \$5.00, children under 5, free.

Kirkwood Community Center is located at 111 S. Geyer Rd. in Kirkwood.

2017 Calendar

December 3rd, Sunday, 3 –5 pm, 3rd Lucia Rehearsal

December 9th, Saturday, 2 pm Butik, 3 pm Lucia

December 15th, Friday, 6–8 pm, IKEA Julbord

February 11th, Sunday, 3 pm, Business Meeting & Pancake Supper

KAFFESTUGA REQUEST

Please bring Lucia Buns, Swedish cinnamon or cardamom buns and Swedish cookies to Lucia for sale in our Kaffestuga. The Swedish Council is so fortunate to have such talented bakers. You are so appreciated! Tack så mycket.

Doris Martin

Linnea Turner



Linnea Turner is 15 years old and a freshman at Edwardsville High School in Illinois. She takes some honors classes and participates in Freshman Council, Animal Rescue Club and Photography Club. Linnea plays the violin in Symphonic Orchestra at school, and also takes classes with the Suzuki program at SIUE.

Linnea speaks Swedish, and has visited Sweden consistently every other year since she was 9 months old. Some of her favorite things to do in Sweden are taking walks in the woods, fika, and eating Swedish pizza.

President's Column

Hejsan Alla,

On October 22nd we were fortunate to have SCSL member, Larry Nordlof, share a portion of his photos from his and Sharon's Scandinavian vacation. If you will recall, Larry wrote about his 2014 trip in several Gult och Blått issues beginning in September 2016. For those of you who missed his beautiful and informative program, you can go on YouTube and see all his photos----go to: Scandinavia 2014 171022. Tack så mycket, Larry.

The Gustav Adolf Dinner at L'Ecole Culinaire on November 4th was once again a huge success. Chef Parks began the evening by explaining the menu with much enthusiasm. Before we started our meal, Swedish Council member, Charles Henrickson, said the prayer. Snaps songs were sung along with small tastings of different flavored snaps in between the courses. Then before our dessert was served, Charles Henrickson gave a short talk about how Martin Luther affected King Gustav Adolf's view on religion. Tusen tack, Charles. The evening could not have been more enjoyable.

The Lucia Fest is coming up on December 9th at the Kirkwood Community Center and our tärnor, sjängosser, peppakakor, tomtar, och Lucia have begun practicing at the Community Covenant Church in Kirkwood. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone there. And, to our talented Swedish bakers, please don't forget the Kaffestuga needs your delicious baked goods to sell. Many thanks ahead of time.

Jul will be fast approaching after our Lucia celebration and it definitely reminds us that we have to get out our Swedish decorations if we haven't already. My julbocks have been placed on my hearth but the straw decorations are still in their boxes. Soon the delicious scents of Swedish cookies and coffee breads as well as the fragrance of glögg simmering on the stove might be filling the air in our homes in preparation for the big day. Our Swedish traditions are important to share with our children and grandchildren so they can be passed down for generations to come. And, let's

share our Swedishness with others this holiday season.

All of us on the Swedish Council Executive Board wish you a happy and healthy holiday season.
GOD JUL OCH GOTT NYTT ÅR!

Doris Martin

Member News

Our hearts go out to Swedish Council member, Angeli Fletcher, on the sudden death of her 22 year old son, Sebastian. He was also the nephew of members Britt & Shean Benson, nephew of Stephanie & Brian Conway and grandson of Irene Sandgren. We're sending warm thoughts and prayers to them and their families.



A Scene at the Gustav Adolf Dinner on November 4th.

Celebrating 41 Years!

As the Swedish Council of St. Louis celebrates its 41st year, we thought you would be interested in what Lilian Morath wrote about its inception.

“There have been gatherings of Swedes for over a hundred years in St. Louis and a lasting evidence of that is the plaque on a building at 1157 South Kingshighway that says THE SWEDISH NATIONAL SOCIETY. This Society was established on November 11, 1889 and the building completed and dedicated on August 23, 1913. In 1969 the Society was disbanded and the building sold.

In 1970 when Roy Oscarson, who was then the Honorary Swedish Consul in St. Louis, called me to help arrange a Swedish Dinner, we had to start from scratch. There was a little notice in the Post Dispatch and in addition I mailed invitations to unknown people with Swedish names that I found in the telephone book. And, of course, to the Swedes that I knew. Especially the ladies in the Swedish Coffee group.

About 130 people came and the dinner was a great success as Swedes and Swedish descendants gathered at the Cheshire Inn in Clayton on November 21, 1970.

So successful in fact that Mr. Oscarson wanted to arrange another dinner in May 1971. This one was at the Le Chateau in Frontenac. It was an even greater success as we had the Consul General Jarnstedt from Chicago attend as guest of honor. We also had a Maypole and a performance by the International Folk Dancers.

After that Mr. Oscarson felt that he had done enough and left organizing a Swedish Club up to the rest of us. We had a picnic and I taught a few evening classes in Swedish but nothing really got organized.

After that the umbrella organization, the Swedish Council of America, had been formed and Dr. Nils William Olsson came to visit. In December 1976 Philip Graham called me and asked me to get my Swedish lady friends and their children to come to

Trinity Lutheran Church in Kirkwood and perform the Lucia Ceremony as he and some people had formed a Swedish Club to be known as the Swedish Council of St. Louis or SCSL for short.

Well, although ‘this group of ladies and children’ had never performed a Lucia pageant together, we decided to go ahead and do it. We rehearsed only one hour before the Potluck Dinner started, but that did not worry us as we all knew the Lucia song and had the necessary white clothing etc. Our first Lucia was Carolina Eby from Stockholm – a cousin of Karen Tucker-Fox now a SCSL member and later on a Lucia Queen herself. The performance took place in the Fellowship Hall downstairs of the church and it must have been pretty good because the following year we performed in the sanctuary. By then I had become the St. Louis representative for the American Scandinavian Student Exchange (ASSE) and had 12 plus young people ready to perform. Although the big boys reluctantly dressed up as tomtar in the red vests and caps I had made – same as we use today – the performance this time was a great success. So successful that from then on it became more of a production and performances have since been public events held at Frontenac Plaza, Botanical Garden, Concordia Seminary and nowadays at Kirkwood Community Center.

And as the ‘Lucia’ grew, so did the membership. But we had other activities as well. Thanks to Joe Peterson we got involved with the restoration of the Linnean House at the Missouri Botanical Garden. When you exit through the middle doors of the Linnean House, you can see a plaque that says that the Swedish Council of St. Louis contributed to the restoration.”

November 9, 2001
Lilian Morath



Viking Workshop

At the October Workshop, we had two excellent presentations on the reasons for the start and end of the Viking Era, including Jim Littlefield's power point program which tied it in with what was going on in the rest of the world at the time. I am sorry for those who missed the meeting. They missed an excellent program.

We decided that the subject for the November meeting will be Norse Myths and Mythology. This is a very large field so we may need more than one workshop to cover it.

At the meeting, in addition to selecting a subject for the next workshop, we need to decide whether to meet during the winter, keeping in mind that the 4th Tuesday in December is Dec. 26, the day after Christmas. If you cannot be at the November workshop, please email me your vote on whether or not to meet on the day after Christmas and during the rest of the winter, as well as suggestions for subjects for future programs.

Hope to see you all at the November 28th Workshop!!

Dave Peterson dwpete26@juno.com



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Enjoy some more photos from the Gustav Adolf dinner courtesy of Diane Haneklau

