



# ScandiNews

Scandinavian Club of Columbus

PO BOX 14296

Columbus, Ohio 43214

January 2008

## 2007-2008 Events

Finnish Night	Jan. 19
Club Birthday Party	Feb. 16
Icelandic Night	Mar. 15
Danish Night	Apr. 19
Norwegian Night	May 17
Midsommar	June 21



Concordia Language Villages are the Most Extensive Language and Culture Immersion Camps in the United States.

In addition to several summer sites at various locations, they have six year-round Villages in Minnesota that feature culturally authentic architecture. Their mission is to prepare young people for responsible citizenship in our global community.

They teach 15 world languages, including Danish, Finnish, Norwegian and Swedish.

With an annual enrollment of approximately 9,500 young people and 500 adults, Concordia offers a wide variety of options with sessions varying in length from one weekend to four

weeks. All language levels are welcome, from beginning to advanced. Villagers come from all 50 states and more than 40 countries.

Native speakers and American language professionals help make total immersion possible. More than 1,200 summer staff positions create a 1:5 staff-villager ratio. Each Language Village hires counselors, program leaders, credit teachers, healthcare workers, and kitchen staff.



Our program on January 19th will feature Scandinavian Club members and their experiences with the Language Villages and other international exchanges.

<http://clweb.cord.edu/prweb/default.asp>

## Reader's Digest study says Finland best for living

HELSINKI, Oct 5 (Reuters) - The Nordic countries are the world's greenest and, despite the cold winters, Finland is the best country to live in, according to a Reader's Digest study released on Friday.

Finland was followed by Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Austria.

"Finland wins high marks for air and water quality, a low incidence of infant disease and how well it protects citizens from water pollution and natural disasters," the study said.

The United States was 23rd on the list of 141 countries, Britain was 25th and China 84th. Nations at the bottom of the table were all African. Stockholm scored as the best city to live in out of 72 major metropolitan hubs, followed by Oslo, Munich and Paris. Four German cities won a spot in the top 10 list. New York was 15th and London 27th.

The dirtiest cities were in Asia, with Beijing, host of next summer's Olympic, at the bottom because of its air pollution.



Helsinki City Center

The study was conducted by U.S. environmental economist Matthew Kahn, who looked at issues such as quality of drinking water and greenhouse gas emissions as well as factors such as education and income.

Thursday, Oct. 4, 2007

<http://www.reuters.com/article/latestCrisis/idUSL04132064>

The Skandi-Kaffe Group will meet on Thursday, Jan. 24 at La Chatelaine, 627 High Street in Worthington from 9:30 am to 11:00 am. Come join us!



## Message from the Dinner Chair

In spite of the snow and sleet we managed to put on a superb Christmas Dinner for the Club. It took Ed and me over an hour to reach the church from our home in Southern Delaware County (which is normally only a twenty minute drive). Marilyn Smith and Ann Beal had an equally challenging drive but were already there and waiting for us to let them in so they could get started in preparing Dinner for 139 people.

Unfortunately, several people canceled at the last minute and some simply did not show up. We ended up with only 102 people and I want to thank those members who helped us out by buying the leftovers, so that none of the extra food was wasted. I also want to thank our hardworking committee for their great efforts, especially Marilyn Smith and Ann Beal for being in charge of the dinner and to Sylvia Casas, who volunteered to work on her second dinner committee for this year.

### December 15, 2007 Lucia

Marilyn Flor Smith and Ann Beal (Co-Capts.)  
 Frank & Birgit Andersen      Anne Anderson  
 Sylvia Casas                      Dianne Jatko Clark (sick)  
 Andreas & Sara Garnes      Richard & Dolores Grulkowski  
 Åke & Ingrid Hellström      Paul Holmberg (sick)  
 Bill & Marlene Kinsey      Bruce Nordstrom (sick)  
 Stanley & Martha Nordstrom (sick)

For January we celebrate Finland. Our members from Finland have always put on great and authentic Finish dinners. It is so wonderful to see the pride they take and letting the rest of us experience a little bit of the taste of their home country.

### January 19, 2008 Finland

J. J. Schultz & Päivi Rajala-Schultz (Co-Capts.)  
 Kathy Ojala (Co-Capts.)  
 Marilyn (Molly) Hood  
 Kit Kilen & Michael Babin  
 Don & Mary Jo Neader  
 Hella Ojala  
 Ray & Carol Olson  
 Karen Sobul & Risto Petman  
 Arvo & Anna Pikkarainen  
 Edward & Carol Savolaine  
 Neal Tostenson  
 Michele Kuhn-Warren & Erik Warren

I will end my message by wishing you all a Happy New Year. (Godt Nyttår). I know 2008 is going to be a great year.

Grete Davidsen-Kidwell

## Finland's Turku Castle

*Written for Virtual Finland by  
 Dr. Carl Jacob Gardberg,  
 State archeologist*

Turku castle was probably founded in 1280, i.e. at the very time when an old trading site on the Aurajoki river developed into a town, the oldest, and for a long time the biggest, in Finland. Its name was Åbo in Swedish and Turku in Finnish; the latter derives from a Slavonic word meaning 'market square'. The castle was built on an island in the estuary in the form of a rectangular fortified camp with four gates. The pattern was an ancient one, and can be traced back ultimately to the citadels built by the Romans in antiquity. In Turku, the idea was apparently that the camp should be possible to both fill and evacuate quickly, for instance prior to the third crusade in 1293.

The citadel had probably outlived its usefulness by the beginning of the 14th century, when three gates were walled shut and it was converted into a closed keep. Extensions were successively built using granite from nearby, and by the beginning of the 15th century, it had both a keep and a bailey. The keep, which had over forty rooms, was subject to a rigid hierarchy and only select guests were allowed entry to the 'Royal Suite' at the furthest end of the north wing; this consisted of a vaulted hall and an inner chamber.

The king of the realm naturally resided in Stockholm most of the time, but the suite in Turku castle still deserved its name, as no other castle in Finland was so often visited by the monarch. When the first king of the Vasa dynasty resided in Finland for eleven months in 1555-1556, the entire kingdom of Sweden was ruled from his hall in Turku castle. The importance of the castle is also evident in the fact that it was subject to nine sieges before the end of the 16th century, mainly due to internal strife within the kingdom.

For more information on Finland's castles, visit:  
<http://virtual.finland.fi/netcomm/news/showarticle.asp?intNWSAID=25955>

Photo: Matti Tiri



### Letter from the President — Bob Holm

Among the highlights of our time in Norway this past summer was an overnight visit to Fedje, an island off the coast of western Norway. Note from the sign behind me that we were 54 km from Bergen and 346 km from Oslo. My cousin Johannes Reigstad and his wife Arnfrid and all five of their sons and daughters have vacation homes on Fedje!

More than 100 hearty Scandinavians made it to the Santa Lucia dinner in December. We were so sorry that 35 people who had intended to come were unable to travel due to the snow storm. Fortunately, most of the children made it, and enjoyed the Santa Lucia festivities and the visit by Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus. As always, special thanks to the dinner committee which was co-chaired by Marilyn Flor Smith and Ann Beal and to our dinner chair for the year, Grete Davidson-Kidwell. Special thanks also to Karen Freudenreich for coordinating the Lucia procession and to Sandy Powell

for her contribution of the music for the evening.

We also recognized the 90th anniversary of Finnish independence at the December meeting, with Finnish music and the singing of the Finnish National Anthem. We will continue the celebration in January, as it will be Finnish Night.

Our Club has done well in attracting new members in the past couple of years. Please do welcome new members and be alert to persons you could invite who might become new members.

As we begin 2008, I am mindful that we have only six months to go in our 2007-08 Scandinavian Club year. In a couple of months we will begin recruiting new Board members to fill the places of three retiring members (Tammy Carl, Ed Kidwell and Bob



Holm). I urge and invite members who would be interested in serving on the Board to let me or any other Board member know.

Best wishes to all for a happy and prosperous New Year!

Sincerely yours,  
Bob Holm, President 2007-08

### New Members

**Stenberg, Benjamin & Shannon**  
6298 Valley Stream  
Dublin, OH 43017  
614-937-7138  
benjamin.a.stenberg@chase.com

Benjamin is Swedish through his paternal grandparents.

Corrections to the roster:  
Warren & Sandy Powell's email address:  
**wpowell003@columbus.rr.com**

Send Roster corrections to Carol Wickstrom  
614-263-9392

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥  
**Congratulations!**  
♥♥ To Harry and Carol Wickstrom. The ♥♥  
♥♥ couple celebrated their 50th wedding ♥♥  
♥♥ anniversary on November 16th. ♥♥  
♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥



*Luciafest*  
2007



## SCANDINAVIAN CLUB OF COLUMBUS

PO Box 14296  
Columbus, OH 43214

### 2007-2008 Board

**President**

Bob Holm  
841-3514

**Vice-President**

Caitlin Kilkka  
248-770-3735

**Treasurer**

Ed Kidwell  
882-8391

**Secretary**

Katy Rasor  
457-1070

**Calling Chair**

Randy Carlson  
885-2421

**Dinner Chair**

Grete Davidsen-Kidwell  
882-8391

**Membership**

Carol Wickstrom  
263-9392

**Property Chair**

Arvo Pikkarainen  
740-964-3581

**ScandiNews**

Tammy Carl  
459-2226

### Scandinavian Club Board Minutes From December

Date: Sunday, Dec. 16, 2007, at the home of Carol Wickstrom.

Members Present: Bob Holm, Ed Kidwell, Grete Davidsen-Kidwell, Randy Carlson, Tammy Carl, Caitlin Kilkka, Carol Wickstrom and Katy Rasor.

President: Bob Holm called the meeting to order. The minutes of Nov. 18 were approved. Bob suggested each board member should write a description of his/her board position to ease the arrival of new board members.

**REPORTS:**

Secretary reported a card had been sent to Renee Mobeck.

**TREASURER:** Ed Kidwell reported a loss of -\$222.93 from the Lucia Dinner: 102 attended from the 131 reservations. The board agreed weather conditions contributed to Dinner attendance. The last of the merchandise from the International Festival was sold during the dinner. There has been a change in IRS filing status. The club is now required to file for the tax period of December 2006. The Scandinavian Club is considered non-profit (501C6 organization).

**PROGRAM:** Discussion was held regarding the January Dinner Meeting which is Finnish Night. Additional programs for the rest of the year were discussed.

**MEMBERSHIP:** The club welcomes Benjamin and Shannon Stenberg. Benjamin's paternal grandparents were Swedish. Carol said she sends a membership application with a letter to people who are interested in the club.

**DINNER COMMITTEE:** Grete told the board that the ham loaf served at the Lucia Dinner had also been on the menu at the Lucia Dinner in 1953 when Marilyn Flor Smith's father, Dewey Flor, had served as President of the club. Grete thanked her hard working Dinner Committee for the delicious meal.

**CALLING COMMITTEE:** Discussion of the coordination of Calling and Dinner committees reporting reservations to the Treasurer was held. There was discussion of pre-payment for the Lucia Dinner; a motion was made and then tabled for future consideration.

**PROPERTY:** Bob will talk with Arvo and Karen Freudenreich concerning Lucia costumes i.e. storage and upkeep.

**SCANDINEWS:** Tammy reported she mailed 81 copies and e-mailed 35 to members.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

The next meeting will be at the home of Grete Davidsen-Kidwell and Ed Kidwell 10:00a.m. , Saturday, January 26.

Respectfully submitted,  
Katy Rasor, Secretary