

Elise Peters from The Swedish Council of America will attend the festival in September.

Elise will be coming all the way from Minneapolis because of her passion for an instrument called the nyckelharpa. The workshops at the festival were a great reason to come visit Jamestown. She has played nyckelharpa for about five years and enjoys playing traditional tunes from Uppland and the great master of nyckelharpa Eric Sahlström.

Elise's background includes a degree in Scandinavian Studies from Gustavus Adolphus College as well as a significant amount of time spent in Sweden. From her fathers' side, she has relatives in the Småland area as well as the Uppland/Gästrikland areas of Sweden. She directs the Twin Cities Swedish Folk Dancers, is program director for the Concordia Language Village Adult language program in Swedish, as well as an active member of the Twin Cities Nyckelharpalag.

Elise has been the Director of Affiliates for SCA since 2001. Her responsibilities include the SCA Update newsletter, the *Nordic Reach* magazine mailing list, and the identification and promotion of organizations working on the local level with the Swedish/Scandinavian heritage. There is an Affiliates breakfast scheduled for Saturday morning for representatives of our local groups to welcome Elise. We'll see her again, we hope, when the Annual Meeting for SCA is held here in the Jamestown area in September 2004.



New to the Festival, Nordenvind

PREVIEW OF THE SCANDINAVIAN FOLK FESTIVAL

This year's Scandinavian Folk Festival has a great line-up of performers for listening and/or dancing. We found two groups from Sweden that are touring the states this fall and another one will travel to join us from Boston, MA. From Sweden, the Kari Sjöstrand Trio will have a keyboard, a stand-up bass, a sax and a singer to make their sound quite unique. Hoven Droven is also from Sweden and will be coming to us after playing the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC. They are a 6 piece Nordic folk band that can "mix traditional tunes with jazz inflections and a rock attitude". We'll just see what they cook up for us; you might want to bring the younger set to hear this group. The Boston Scandinavian Ensemble is a duo of accordion and guitar and play lively danceable tunes. One of the members is a relative of Donna Johnson, who many in Jamestown know.

Along with those headliners, we'll have Skenska Spelman and Nordenvind, both with our own Don Sandy on the accordion. Laurie Hart will be back with her special Norwegian hardangar fiddler. As a very special treat, Sweden's Peter Puma Hedlund, the two-time World Nyckelharpa Champion, will be here performing and teaching workshops. For those of you who enjoy folk dancing and costumes, we will again have teams coming from Pittsburgh

From Sweden, Hoven Droven



and Toronto to join our Thule Folk dancers on the program.

All of these groups will perform more than once over the weekend. Make sure not to miss the Beer & Wine Tent Stage. It'll have a fun-loving party atmosphere thanks to the sponsorship of the Men's Norden Club.

Beyond what you see on the festival schedule there are new food and product vendors, lots of Vikings to learn from, indoor exhibits and displays of historical content, a Kubb lawn game playing area and a new "Made in Jamestown" booth. This is an event for the whole family, especially all the out-of-town members. And you don't have to be Scandinavian to find something to enjoy!

SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES PROGRAM Culture Day

The sixth year of Culture Day will begin on Saturday, October 4, 2003 at Jamestown Community College's Hamilton Collegiate Center. Sessions will be held the first Saturday of each month through May 2004. Each session begins at 9:45 AM and lasts until noon.

There will be a number of new workshops this year.

- a.) Vihelm Moberg wrote a series of four books tracing the lives of a typical Swedish family that emigrated to the United States in the 1850's. One can experience life in Sweden and the influences leading to emigration. One can travel and share the many hardships with the family during the months it takes to arrive at their destination. One obtains a sense of the daily lives of pioneers. This is the story of some of our ancestors. The series was made into a movie, which we will also have the opportunity to watch. There are plans on making the story into a Broadway production. The names of the four books are The Emigrants, Unto a Good Land, The Settlers, and The Last Letter Home. The books will be available to sign out or purchase.
- b.) The strategic board game created by the Vikings call Hnefatafl has become quite popular at Culture Day. Materials will be provided so that participants can make their own game set.
- c.) Just in time for Christmas, a major craft project will be a Lucia candleholder.
- d.) Looms have been built for Culture Day so participants can learn to weave some Scandinavian patterns.

In addition, each month there will be language, cooking, genealogy, chip carving, woodcarving, crafts, games, Hardanger embroidery, knitting, crocheted lace and video workshops. All workshops are based on Scandinavian traditions. A detailed

program guide will be available in September. For further information call JCC at 716-665-5220 ext. 3333.

The traditional "get ready for a Scandinavian Christmas" session will be held on December 6, 2003. A sampling of Scandinavian Christmas foods will also occur on that day. Culture Day, along with Peterson Farms, Viking Trader and Jones Bakery are collaborating to provide workshops, food samples and products that will make any Christmas more Scandinavian. This day's sessions are part of the Chautauqua Art Trail, a collection of artistic and cultural events spanning July through December. Visit www.ChautauquaArtTrail.com for additional information.

Scandinavian Small Works Exhibit Opens in Westfield Labor Day Weekend

Audrey and Donald Dowling, owners of the Portage Hill Gallery, are pleased to present a show of art works created by artists of Scandinavian descent from throughout the United States and the Western New York region in conjunction with the Scandinavian Folk Festival. The art works include works created from many different media. The opening will run from 2-5PM on Saturday, August 30th and will feature live Scandinavian folk music by Svenska Spelman. The show will open on August 28th and run through September 26th. The gallery is in its 21st year. It is located on Route 394 midway between Westfield and Mayville on Portage Hill. The hours are daily until September. The fall hours are Tuesday - Friday from 1-4, Saturday and Sunday 10-5. For more information contact us at (716) 326-4478 or dowlings@cecomet.net. www.portagehillgallery.com