

# Scandinavian

Happenings in the Greater Jamestown Area

Winter 2018

## Thule Folk Dance Team Sweden Trip

The Thule Lodge Swedish Folk Dance Team recently returned from their educational trip to Sweden. There were 19 dancers, 3 musicians and 10 family members who made the trip. Areas visited included Stockholm, Rättvik, Örebro and surrounding areas. The goal of the trip was to meet with Swedish folk dance teams, which was accomplished meeting with 9 different teams. Dancing and learning from Swedish performers provided an inspirational opportunity for our local team to enhance their skills. The teams were most gracious, serving splendid foods and a wide variety of Swedish treats during Fika breaks.



Besides dancing, while in Stockholm; the team visited the Royal Palace, medieval museum, Stockholm City Hall, the Wasa ship, Skanssen and much more. In addition, there were tours at Carl Larsson's home, the Zorn Museum, a copper mine, Sigtuna and a couple castles. The Team preferred to take their lodging on a ship in Stockholm, some old farms, and even an airplane.

About half of the team had never been to Sweden before, so this was a trip of a lifetime. In addition, at least eight members of the group met with relatives while in Sweden, some for the first time. The pace of the trip was rather intense to take advantage of the time. After 10 days, most of the group returned; with a few staying on to enhance their tour. The Team thanks the community for their support and, in particular, the Scandinavian Studies Program, Swedish Council of America, Morgan O. Doolittle Jr. and Mary T. Doolittle Memorial Fund and the Emil M. and Gertrude E. Johnson Fund at the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation and the Staff Discretionary Grant from the Sheldon Foundation. A more complete report with photos is being prepared and will be shared.



## Scandinavian Folk Festival

The 17th annual Scandinavian Folk Festival was held July 20, 21 and 22 with a return to Jamestown Community College. The College invited the Festival to return from the Gerry Rodeo Grounds. The previous departure from the College was caused by the construction of JCC's new science building.



Music was provided by Smorgasbandet and the Oskar Stenmark Jazz Trio from New York City; as well as our local Svenska Spelmän and the Viking Chorus. Folk Dancing was enjoyed with performances by both the Thule Child and Adult Folk Dance Teams. The most popular event of the weekend was the traditional Midsummer celebration with the procession of the midsummer pole and community ring dancing. The Swedish Folk Dance Mass was held on Sunday afternoon. All these activities preserve the Swedish Culture of the Jamestown area as well as Northwestern Pennsylvania.



Next year, the Festival will be held July 19, 20 and 21 again at Jamestown Community College. There will be new logistics since the construction projects will be completed and a new Swedish food court and dining area will be developed near the market and entertainment tents.

## Lucia Pageant

Sophia Hedin has been selected as Lucia for 2018 by the American Scandinavian Heritage Foundation and Thule Lodge Children's Club.

Sophia is the daughter of Neil and Johanna Hedin of Jamestown. She has participated in Lucia Pageants at Zion Covenant Church and with the American Scandinavian Heritage Foundation for many years.

Sophia is a sophomore at Southwestern Central School and an honor roll student. She plays the violin in the orchestra and volunteers with the Key Club. Sophia also has studied piano for the past 8 years with Andrew Schmidt.

The Lucia is a Swedish Christmas tradition that is celebrated all over Sweden. The candles and warmth of the pageant bring light into the dark of winter. Our local Lucia Pageant will be celebrated at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church on Sunday, December 9, at 2 PM. The pageant will be followed by coffee, Lucia buns (Lussekatter – made with saffron and topped with a few raisins) and cookies. During refreshments, the Thule Swedish Children Folk Dancers will share some ring dances.

The Lucia Pageant is coordinated by Maria Malmstrom and Susanna Ecklof who also conduct the Swedish School for children the first Saturday of each month at Jamestown Community College. The Pageant is sponsored by the American Scandinavian Heritage Foundation and the Thule Lodge Children's Club with the support of the Scandinavian Studies Program. The entire program is free and open to the public.



# JCC

JAMESTOWN  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE

S U N Y

525 Falconer Street  
P.O. Box 20  
Jamestown, NY 14702-0020

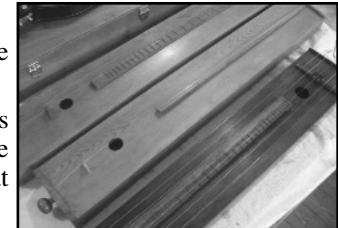
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## Address Services Requested

### Swedish Psalmodikon

Our friend from Rochester, Nils Caspersson, is researching the Swedish psalmodikon. A sample of four different ones are pictured here.

The psalmodikon is a 19thc. Scandinavian folk music instrument commonly used in churches to accompany choral singing. He is looking for any evidence of the psalmodikon found in the western New York Chautauqua County area. Please do not hesitate to contact Nils R. Caspersson at [nilscaspersson@yahoo.com](mailto:nilscaspersson@yahoo.com) or call 585 924 7868 with information.



### Julmarknad (Swedish Market Day)

The Jamestown city-wide Swedish market day is December 1, 2018. Sponsored by the Scandinavian Studies Program at Jamestown Community College, this event is Western New York, Northwestern Pennsylvania, and Ohio's opportunity to prepare for a Scandinavian Christmas.

Jamestown is the only place with such a Scandinavian focus in our three-state area. Where else but in Jamestown will the Scandinavian community open their doors to a full day of free food samples, raffles, music, folk dancing, workshops and many other events; as we prepare for Christmas. See enclosed brochure for details. For more information, call 716-665-0883 or visit [scandinavianjamestown.com](http://scandinavianjamestown.com).



### Arts and Crafts Stuga



The Scandinavian Studies Program held a ribbon cutting ceremony to dedicate the new arts and crafts stuga (the Swedish word for cottage or cabin) that was refurbished at YMCA Camp Onyahsa; made possible by a grant of \$38,000 given by the Scandinavian Studies Program. The old building was moved to a new lakefront location and given a new concrete foundation. This allows for a short basement for tornado shelter, storage, and to run future utilities; such as heat ducts. A new large covered lakefront deck now provides a beautiful view of the lake.

The stuga honors the tradition of Scandinavian handcrafts and of cooperative living, by providing a venue for over 1,000 area youth each summer to engage in handcrafts.

The Thule Children's Folk Dance Team performed around the Midsummer Pole, followed by tours of the stuga and other activities; including kubb, tipsrunda, crafts, and traditional ring dancing. The evening ended with a bonfire. Those in attendance at the dedication included members from the American Scandinavian Heritage Foundation, The Norden Club, the Vikings, Scandinavian Folk Festival, the Norden Women's Club; and over 100 young campers.



The Scandinavian Studies Program was formed in 1983 as an umbrella organization to the many Scandinavian organizations in Jamestown. It helps to support the Scandinavian Folk Festival, Culture Days held at JCC the first Saturday of the month from October through May, and a concert at the Goranson Band Shell in Allen Park in Jamestown; as well as other Scandinavian events. For more information on the Scandinavian Studies Program, please call 716-338-1185.

### Upcoming Events

#### Julmarknad

December 1 at JCC  
and around town

#### Swedish Hour Radio Program

Advent and Christmas  
music begin December 2; Broadcast  
on Sunday nights at 7pm (also 3am)  
over WRFA-LP at 107.9 on the FM  
dial or WRFALP.com on the web.

#### Lucia Pageant

December 9 at 2pm,  
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

#### Viking Chorus Seasonal Concert

December 9 at 3pm,  
Celoron Legion

#### Culture Day

January 5, February 2,

& March 2, 2019 at

Hamilton Collegiate Center at  
Jamestown Community College,  
9:45 - Noon

#### Scandinavian Folk Festival

July 19, 20, & 21, 2019 at  
Jamestown Community College