



# THE SCANDINAVIAN CLUB of TOLEDO

News and Culture of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden



OLAV GJESDAHL, founder

DECEMBER, 2017

ERIC SLAWSON, editor

## 2017 Julfest at Inverness Club

**Sunday, December 10, 2017. Gather at 2 pm.**

*Our traditional Christmas celebration begins with catching up with old friends around the fireplace with warm Glögg. Then we'll delight our senses with a Smörgåsbord of Smoked Salmon, Nordic Cheeses, Herring, Hardtack & Limpa, along with pickled Cucumbers. For something hot, we'll have Meatballs and Potatoes, with Lingonsilt on the side. We'll have Lucia, sing Yuletide carols, and have Rice Pudding with our very own Cookies for dessert. Then we'll wrap it all up with our annual Raffle. It's the same fun-filled evening we always have, so bring some friends and let us all enjoy Julfest together in the wonderful Living Room at the Inverness Club!*

**Reservations Are Required. See page two for details.**

### Glögg

Our traditional holiday drink will be on hand. After you put your coat away, come in and warm up your innards!

### Raffle

Please be sure to bring something Scandinavian or holiday-related in nature to donate to our Raffle Table.

### Cookies

Also, please remember to bring some home-baked Cookies for our Dessert!

### Membership

If you have not yet renewed your membership for this fiscal year (July through June), please make your check out for \$15 per person to "Scandinavian Club of Toledo", and send it to our treasurer at: **Kris Johnson, PO Box 355, Williston, OH 43468.**

### Location of Julfest

*We are pleased to return to Inverness Club for Julfest.*

**Directions:** Inverness Club is in west Toledo, on Dorr Street. Get yourself to Reynolds and Dorr, then go east for half a mile. Inverness is on the right (south) side of Dorr Street. Valet parking is available. Or, drop your guests at the front door, then park in either parking lot. You may leave your coat in the men's or lady's rooms, and find us in the Living Room, where your member name tag will be waiting for you.

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy Holidays to all. As we attempt to recover from the turkey and dressing and the other assorted goodies we had for Thanksgiving, we begin to prepare ourselves for the holiday season. The Scandinavian Club will be celebrating Christmas at our annual Julfest at the Inverness Club on Sunday, December 10, beginning at 2:00 PM. Hope that we have a good turnout to celebrate the season with good cheer and fellowship. Also please consider joining us at the Club book group on January 9 when we discuss "The Almost Nearly Perfect People," a book about the people of Scandinavia.

Tack så mycket, John



# RESERVATION FOR JULFEST

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Annual Membership Dues per **Adult**: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Julfest** Number of **Members**: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$35 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Julfest** Number of **Non-members**: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$40 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Reservations due Thursday, Dec. 7th.** Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to:  
**SCANDINAVIAN CLUB OF TOLEDO** and mail to:  
**KRIS JOHNSON, PO Box 355,**  
**WILLISTON, OH 43468**  
Reservations with checks are due **Thursday,**  
**December 7th.** Members may email  
reservations to [cjohnson143@woh.rr.com](mailto:cjohnson143@woh.rr.com)

## Suomi Finland 100

### A Century of Freedom

**Finland** was a part of **Sweden** for more than 600 years, from the 12th century to 1809, when it was lost in a war with **Russia**. It became the Grand Duchy of Finland in the Russian Empire, and three years later was combined with Karelia (part of Russia that is culturally and historically part of Finland) and thus governed by the czar of Russia until the Russian Revolution provided an opportunity for Finnish revolt. On December 6, 1917, Finns declared their independence from Russia. This held until the beginning of WWII in 1939 when Russia yet again invaded, subduing Finland in the Winter War. By the end of WWII, Finland remained independent but had lost one-tenth of its area to the Soviet Union, including corridor access to the ice-free Arctic coast in the northeast, and a large part of Karelia in the southeast. Finland was admitted to the United Nations in 1955 (under a US-Soviet agreement), and became a full member of the European Union in 1995.

A land worth fighting for: Finland's geography is a stunning one, heavily forested and containing some 56,000 lakes (granite substrate carved by Ice Age glaciers) with numerous rivers, islands and swamplands. From the air, the landmass looks like an intricate blue and green jigsaw puzzle, being generally flat in the south, with a few mountainous regions in the far north along the borders. Its 2,760 miles of coastline is extremely indented and dotted with thousands of islands. Climate in the north is extreme; with a third of the country above the Arctic Circle, winters are long and cold with snows that never melt. In the south, warm waters from the Atlantic mitigate temperature swings leaving Finland as much as 10 degrees warmer than similar latitudes in Siberia and Greenland.

Throughout 2017, there have been numerous celebratory events in Finland and around the world to mark a century of freedom for these intensely proud Finnish people. The Sauna is core to Finnish culture, and Traveling Sauna is an export promotion and image campaign here in the USA which has travelled from Minnesota to Texas, and from Oregon and California to Massachusetts and Florida. Its tour concludes in Washington D.C. from Dec. 2 to 6, 2017.

- explore Finland at [suomifinland100](http://suomifinland100)
- source: [Encyclopedia Britannica](http://Encyclopedia Britannica)



### December Holidays

December 6 — Independence Day in Finland.  
December 13 — St. Lucia Day in Scandinavia, especially in Sweden.  
December 24 — Christmas Eve, the biggest holiday of the year.

### Scandinavian Book Club

January 9 — The book to read for January is "*The Almost Nearly Perfect People*" by Michael Booth. We will meet for discussion at Encore Books at 7 pm on January 9, 2018.

### January 2018 Club Meeting

January 14 — Mark you calendars for a potluck. Location to be announced.

### Danish Hygge Tea

Sweet Shalom Tea Room, in Sylvania, Ohio, will be featuring a **Danish Hygge Tea** on Fridays and Sundays during the month of December. Their servers, dressed in traditional Danish folk dress, will offer a Danish style celebratory tea with a menu of:

- Scones with butter and Lingonberries
- Beef Smørrebrød
- Brunede Kartofler (caramelized potatoes)
- Kavring crostinis with Havarti and Cloudberries
- Cucumber Sandwiches
- Egg Salad on Hardtack
- Danish Apple Braid
- Copenhagen's Chocolate Sarah Bernhardt Cakes
- Risalamande

There will be two seatings (11:00am and 2:30pm) each **Friday and Sunday in December**, (except for Christmas Eve).

Sweet Shalom Tea Room  
8216 Erie Street, Sylvania, OH 43560  
(419) 297-9919 or  
[sweetshalomtearoom.com](http://sweetshalomtearoom.com)

**Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year!**

### Club Contacts

[ScandClubToledo@gmail.com](mailto:ScandClubToledo@gmail.com)

President: John L. Jacobson  
Vice President: Lois Staber  
Treasurer: Kris Johnson  
Secretary: Katherine Thompson  
Members at Large: Ruth Alteneeder,  
Jan Wahl, and Judy Nickoloff