



2014 Julfest at Lois's clubhouse

Sunday, December 7th, 2014. Beginning at 4 pm.

Our traditional Christmas celebration begins with catching up with old friends around the fireplace. We'll warm up with Glögg and Aquavit, and delight our senses with a Smörgåsbord of Scandinavian Hard Breads & Swedish Limpa Bread, blanketed with a variety of Scandinavian Cheeses, Gravad Lax (Cured Salmon), Inlagd Sill (Pickled Herring). For the main course, we'll have Roast Pork Stuffed with Prunes, Potatoes in Cream Sauce, Meatballs in gravy, Roasted Beets, Pickled Cucumbers, and Lingonsilt to top it off. But just when you're ready for a nap, we'll wake up with Lucia and sing Yuletide carols. Then for dessert, we'll have Rice Pudding with our very own Cookies, with coffee or tea. And we'll wrap it all up with our annual Raffle. It's the same fun-filled evening you're used to, so bring some friends, and make some new ones!

See page two for details on Reservations.

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

Location of Julfest

We are pleased to have access, again, to the lovely clubhouse owned by our VP Lois Staber's condo association, in Perrysburg, where we were last year. —Thank you, Lois!

Directions: From I-75 or 475, get yourself to Perrysburg, exiting I-475 at exit 2, which is Dixie Hwy (Rt. 25). Turn north onto Dixie Hwy. Turn right at first intersection, at the Circle K gas station, which is Eckel Junction Rd. Drive almost half a mile, turning right onto Turnbury Lane. Turn right at the first little driveway and park in the parking lot. Lois's condo-association's clubhouse is on the right.

Membership Dues

Julfest is cheaper for current Club Members. 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.**

Club Contacts

scandinavian-club@hotmail.com

John Jacobson, President

Lois Staber, Vice President

Kris Johnson, Treasurer

Katherine Thompson, Secretary

Members at Large:

Jan Wahl, Ruth Alteneder,
and Judy Jokinen Nickoloff.

RESERVATION FOR JULFEST

Name(s): _____
Number of **Current Member Adults**: _____ @ \$15 each = \$ _____
Number of **Guest Adults**: _____ @ \$20 each = \$ _____
Number of **Children 10 to 17**: _____ @ \$10 each = \$ _____
Children 9 & Under are Free **Total \$** _____

Please make check payable to:
SCANDINAVIAN CLUB OF TOLEDO and mail to:
KRIS JOHNSON, PO Box 355,
WILLISTON, OH 43468
Reservations with checks due Thursday,
December 4th. Current members may email
reservations to **cjohnson143@woh.rr.com**

If your membership has lapsed, simply add \$15 per adult to your check to get member pricing. Then send an email to Kris at the email address above to let her know your check is in the mail, so we hold a seat for you at Julfest! Thanks!

Club Board Meeting

All Club Members are welcome to join us at our Board Meetings. This month, we'll be at Secretary Katherine Thompson's house, on December 17th. We'll meet at 4pm and have a Fika! Get directions at the Julfest.

Julfest Glögg

Many of us have enjoyed the holiday glögg that Jon Slawson has made for a number of years now, carrying on the tradition. This year, Jon has decided to donate the Glögg to our Julfest, in memory of Raleigh and Ingrid Slawson and their contribution to the Scandinavian Club of Toledo.

Christmas in Scandinavia

You'll remember that in largely Lutheran Scandinavia, Christmas Eve is the most prominent of the days of Christmas, but is by no means the only day. St. Lucia Day is very important in **Sweden**, kicking off the holiday season on Dec. 13th each year — candles lighting her way. Candles and lights are very important in all Nordic countries as it is the darkest time of the year. In **Iceland**, the elf-like spirits descend on the people, causing all sorts of mischief for the 13 days before Christmas. In **Finland**, "Christmas Peace" is declared in the oldest city, Turku, at noon on Christmas Eve, and is now broadcast throughout the country. Finns spend time in the sauna, and visiting loved ones in cemeteries. In **Norway**, families decorate their tree, attend church, have a nice dinner and receive Santa, all on Christmas Eve. **Denmark's and Sweden's** traditions are similar to those in Norway, and all have a form of Santa with gifts for children. Trees are kept well into January in many homes throughout the countries, but in Sweden, the tree is danced and sung around and ceremoniously thrown out the front door on January 13th, closing the holiday season.

—Merry Christmas, everyone!



President's Corner

Well, here we are, coming to the close of another year. It was a great deal of fun to be with those who made it to the holiday trip to IKEA. There were a couple of people who apparently had not been there before, and the looks on faces when it was discovered what was for sale was priceless. My wife and I did our usual stock up on meatballs, cheese and other goodies, including her favorite, skorpor. Having grown up with a Swede as a father, and one who celebrated his Nordicness, I had the benefit of his homemade scorer, made by putting buns in the oven at low temp for a long time, until they are hard as rocks, but do well with butter. In these columns I have already mentioned growing up with a full Scandinavian crew of my parent's friends, and, especially at this time of year, their love of the season and tradition took over. We always had a big Christmas party complete with Lucia, and as a

teenager I always thought she was the prettiest of all the girls whose parents were members of the VASA Lodge.

In addition to that, we always had Yorgie Yorgeson singing I Yust Go Nuts At Christmas, and tales of my grandfather making lutefisk in the bathtub. Fortunately that was not a tradition that my father felt he had to continue. I am looking forward to Julfest on December 7, to share the season with members and friends, to meet new friends and to think about the traditions that are still a part of my holiday celebration. At this time of year our house becomes a nisse museum, those little Swedish elves, along with Jul goats and Dala horses. My wife, Carol, is very obliging even though her heritage is staunchly English. I hope to sell all of you there at the party and will tip a glass of aquavit to your health.

Tak så mycket, John

