



THE
SCANDINAVIAN
CLUB of TOLEDO

OLAV GJESDAHL, founder

FEBRUARY, 2017

ERIC SLAWSON, editor

Scandinavia in 23 Days (pt.2)

Our February meeting
will be held at
The Grape Leaf Diner.
on Sunday, Feb. 19th, at 4 PM.

Program :: Club member **Beverly Miner** will present a travel program she's calling "**Scandinavia in 23 Days, part 2: Denmark and a little bit of Germany**". Join us as we get away from this cold weather and travel with Beverly and Bob as they continue their tour through Norway, Sweden, Denmark and some of Germany.

Menu :: We will have our own buffet of their delicious Lebanese foods, from chicken kafta, to kibbee, to hummus and much more. It's their standard group fare that we've had before — no one will leave hungry. Everything is included in the price of \$20 per person. Children under six are free.

Reservations :: **Reservations due by Friday, Feb. 17th.** Please contact our treasurer, Kris Johnson, at 419-836-7637 or at cjohnson143@woh.rr.com. Let Kris know your name and how many of you will be attending, so that we can let the restaurant know how many to expect. Make your check out to Scandinavian Club of Toledo, and give to Kris at the door.

Location :: **The Grape Leaf Diner**, is located at the corner of Angola Rd. and McCord Rd., on the South-East corner.

DIRECTIONS: In Holland, Ohio, near the Spring Meadows shopping area, Angola Rd. is one road north of Airport Hwy. There is still construction blocking McCord Rd., so you must go around it somehow. From Airport, you could take Holland-Sylvania north to Angola Rd., turn left, continue under highway, and then turn left at restaurant this side of McCord Rd. The Grape Leaf Diner is in a small strip mall on the SE corner. We will meet in their meeting room, to the left as you walk in the front door.

In Memoriam

Long-time Club member **Roberta (Bobbi) Larson** died in early December last year. She was 87 and died unexpectedly. She was active in our club some years ago, and remained active in her church and public library, as well as with women's groups and garden clubs in Findlay. She was married to Richard (Dick) Larson in 1951, and is now survived by her four children, and a grandson.

Upcoming Events

- Feb. 14 — Scand Book Club: "A Man Called Ove"
Feb. 17 — "*The Seagull's Laughter*": an Icelandic movie, at Perrysburg Library. 7 pm.
Feb. 19 — Scand Club Meeting: "Scandinavia in 23 Days, pt. 2, Denmark and a little bit of Germany"
Mar. 16 — "*The Great Man Votes*": a 1940 movie presented by Dr. Jan Wahl, at Perrysburg Library, 10 am.

Scand Book Club

Scand Book Club was cancelled last month due to weather, so join us this month instead for a discussion of "A Man Called Ove" by Fredrik Backman, at Encore Books (Heatherdowns & Key), on Tuesday, February 14th at 7pm. This book is currently number 3 on the New York Times best seller list! Pick it up and join us!

Club Board

ScandClubToledo@gmail.com

President: John L. Jacobson

Vice President: Lois Staber

Treasurer: Kris Johnson

Secretary: Katherine Thompson

Members at Large: Ruth Alteneider, Jan Wahl, and Judy Nickoloff

Kemi Snow Castle is located at LumiLinnankatu, Kemi, Finland. The area features a SnowRestaurant, a SnowChapel (below), and a SnowHotel. Everything is made of ice and compacted snow. —See more at [Finland Today](#)



Kemi SnowChapel



Sweden's Popular Baby Names

Last February, **Alicia Vikander** became the first Swedish actor (female or male) to claim an Academy Award since Ingrid Bergman in 1974. So it's likely no coincidence that in Sweden the name **Alicia** rose from the 21st most common newborn name in 2015, to the 6th in 2016. Last year, 627 new baby girls were named Alicia.

Five new girl's names entered the top 100 last year: Cleo, Adele, Penny, Mila and Hedda, which pushed out Anna, Mariam, Mirra, Tindra and Hedvig. New names for boys in the top 100 were Mio, Milian, Omar, Nicolas, Thor and Frans.

This last name, Frans, is likely due to the Swedish Eurovision darling, **Frans**, who had a massive domestic hit in 2016. His name grew by 59 percent in popularity from 2015 to 2016.

As for the very top spots, Alice was still the most popular name given to girls, the fifth year in which that has been the case, with 910 last year. The second most popular for girls was Lilly (690), followed by Maja (664).

For the boys, Oscar was top, with 879. Oscar is the only name which has been among the top 10 most common names for new babies in Sweden since records began in 1998. The next most popular was Lucas (864), followed by William (850).

All this is according to Statistics Sweden (SCB).

— The Local, 2-2-2017 www.thelocal.se

Another warship discovered

Marine archaeologists have identified a shipwreck they believe to be a historic warship similar to the Vasa. More than 1.3 million people visited Stockholm's iconic Vasa last year, as tourists flocked to take in the remarkably well-preserved wreckage of the ill-fated ship which sank on its maiden voyage in 1628, before finally being salvaged in the 1960s.

Now experts believe they have found the wreckage of a vessel from a similar time period, the **Blekinge**, lying on the seabed at Karlskrona, in southern Sweden.

"It was around the same size as the Vasa, about 45 meters long, with between 68-70 cannons; the Vasa had 64," said Jim Hansson, the curator of the archaeology unit at the Swedish National Maritime

Museums. "It's the first ship that was built in Karlskrona, and was launched in 1682. It participated in, among other things, King Karl XII's sea assault against **Denmark** in 1700."

Hansson suspects that the ship may have been sunk deliberately to use as a canon barge to defend Karlskrona during Karl XII's disastrous campaign against Russia — which ultimately resulted in the downfall of the Swedish Empire, and King Karl fleeing to the Ottoman Empire.

But the **Blekinge** is no equal to the Vasa. Part of the ship appears to have been flattened by the construction of the stone pier at Karlskrona's shipyard, though the part not under the pier may be better preserved.



A model of the Solen, which is similar in size to the Blekinge.

— The Local, Feb. 1, 2017. www.thelocal.se

Finland's Population Aging Rapidly

Active older people are highly visible in Finland at all kinds of social and cultural events, and also in the great outdoors, often whizzing by on skis or bicycles. Finland's population is aging faster than anywhere else in the world except Japan. The over-60 set already makes up 27 percent of the Finnish population, and their numbers are rising rapidly as the post-war baby-boom generation reaches retirement age.

By 2030, it will be beyond the capacity of the Finnish economy to provide fully serviced old people's homes in line with the traditional elderly care model. Average life expectancy for a 60-year-old in Finland is currently 84. This longevity should be seen as a gift, though this will only be true if people can enjoy good quality of life in their twilight years. Research shows that in addition to a safety net of residential care places for the neediest, the elderly appreciate support enabling them to live in their own homes as long as possible.

—Scandinavian Press, Fall 2016.

Sweden Sticking with Paris Agreement

Stockholm stated last week that the country will phase out greenhouse gas emissions down to zero by 2048.

— Reuters, NPR News, 2-2-2017

Iceland: One Panama for Another

A recent headline in the Washington Post remarked on the new Icelandic government: "Iceland ousted one leader named in the Panama Papers, but ended up with another one on the list." The article sites that the infamous Panama Papers had made it into headlines around the world but the biggest impact was probably felt in Iceland, shaming the then prime minister Sigmundur David Gunnlaugsson into resignation last spring. The article remarks that despite the upheaval in Iceland in the wake of the Panama leak, Iceland again finds itself with a prime minister whose name was in the leak. Bjarni Benidiktsson, the new prime minister, is also found in the Panama Papers in relation to an offshore account and company called Falson & Co. in the African island of Seychelles, a known tax haven.

— IceNews, 1-13-2017