



THE
SCANDINAVIAN
CLUB of TOLEDO



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

OLAV GJESDAHL, founder

NOVEMBER, 2017

ERIC SLAWSON, editor

“Mother of Mine”

NOVEMBER MEETING

Way Library in Perrysburg
Sunday, November 19th, at 2pm.

Program :: “**Mother of Mine**” — a wonderful film of a young boy sent to Sweden to escape the Russian invasion of Finland at the end of World War 2. *Mother of Mine* (in [Finnish](#) *Äideistä parhain*; in [Swedish](#) *Den bästa av mödrar*). Directed by [Klaus Härö](#), based on a novel by Heikki Hietamies. Though it did not win, it was Finland's submission to the 2006 Academy Awards in the Foreign Language Film category.

Reservations :: Please contact our treasurer, Kris Johnson, at cjohnson143@woh.rr.com or at 419-836-7637 so that we know how many to expect.

Location :: Perrysburg's Way Public Library is in downtown Perrysburg, on Louisiana Ave., three blocks from the river. We'll be in the downstairs meeting room.

Menu :: **Fika**: Bring what you like to share.

Next Month :: Julfest at Inverness, Dec. 10th.



Ragnarok

—noun Old Norse

Pronounced: |'rag-nə-,ræk , -ræk |

the final destruction of the world in the conflict between the Aesir and the powers of Hel led by Loki — called also Twilight of the Gods.

Origin and Etymology: Old Norse *Ragnarök*, literally, fate of the gods, from *ragna*, genitive plural of *regin* gods + *rök* fate, course (later rendered as *Ragnarøkkr*, literally, twilight of the gods)

—from Merriam-Webster

The Book — Join us for a discussion of “*Ragnarok: The End of the Gods*” by A. S. Byatt at our next Scandinavian Book Club meeting, November 14th at 7pm at Encore Books (Heatherdowns and Key).

The Movie — In theaters nationwide, the Marvel Studios movie “*Thor: Ragnarok*” is currently number one in box office sales, though its storyline has nothing to do with our book of the month (above).

Board Meeting,
Nov. 16, 10am,
Panera Perrysburg.
Members are
welcome.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy Fall and November to everyone. The colder weather seems to be taking its time in making a decision to stay around or warm up. The October meeting was a great program about Finland and the Finnish education system. This month, on November 19 we will be treated to a film about the movement of children during World War II from Finland and the fighting, to neutral Sweden. Hope all of you can join us. I also noticed from the emails that there is a Swedish Christmas boutique at the Finnish Association in Michigan. Please let me know who will be going so I can bring the membership up to date. Hope to see you all on November 19.

Tack så mycket, John

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Name(s): _____
Country: _____ @ \$15 per adult = \$ _____

Please make check payable to: SCANDINAVIAN CLUB OF TOLEDO and mail to: KRIS JOHNSON, PO Box 355, WILLISTON, OH 43468

Dues — If you've not yet sent in dues for 2017-2018, please do so. For those that have, thank you! Membership is only \$15 per adult; children are free. Remember, we are a non-profit, all volunteer social club, and we concentrate all of our efforts on Scandinavian culture, news, and history. We meet each month, from September through June, so if you are new to us, we'd love to meet you and hear your story! Please send your dues to our treasurer today. Details to the right — or come to a meeting to learn more!



The Square :: Sweden is often described as one of the world's most progressive and equal societies. In a 2017 film called *The Square*, things aren't as perfectly Scandinavian as they seem. It's a satire of Sweden's cultural elite set in a modern art museum, following publicity surrounding an art installation. The film was partly inspired by an installation that director Ruben Östlund and producer Kalle Boman had created. Filmed in Gothenburg, Stockholm and Berlin, the film won the coveted [Palme d'Or](#) at the 2017 Cannes Film Festival, the first Swedish film to win there since 1992's *The Best Intentions*.

—Wikipedia and [NPR.org](#)

Club Contacts

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 Jokinen Nickoloff



Politics Iceland:

Parliamentary elections were held in Iceland on 28 October 2017. On 15 September 2017, the three-party coalition government collapsed after the departure of Bright Future over a scandal involving Prime Minister Bjarni Benediktsson's father writing a letter recommending a convicted paedophile have his "honour restored". Bjarni subsequently called for a snap election, which was officially scheduled for October 28, 2017, following the dissolution of the [Althing](#).

Though many opinion polls in the run-up to the election indicated an increase in support for the Left-Green Movement, the Independence Party retained its position as the Althing's largest party. —[Wikipedia](#)

Pope Francis visited Sweden in 2016 to initiate celebration of Reformation

President of the Lutheran World Federation Bishop Munib Younan (left) and Pope Francis attend an ecumenical event at the Malmo Arena one year ago on October 31, 2016, in Malmo, Sweden. The two-day visit to Sweden by Pope Francis kicked off a year of common ecumenical Commemoration of the Reformation — a highly symbolic trip, given that Martin Luther's dissenting movement launched centuries of bitter and often bloody divisions in Europe between Protestants and Catholics. This October 31, 2017, marks the 500th anniversary of Luther nailing his 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany, on October 31, 1517.

—[Huffington Post](#) and [RadioVatican](#)



// TIDBITS //

Baby Food // It's all the rage with teenagers in Finland. It's quick, nutritious, and comes in flavors. —October meeting.

UT Piano // The University of Toledo Department of Music presents an all-Steinway piano concert featuring exciting performances of masterpieces written for two, four, and eight hands. Pianists include guests, faculty, alumni, and piano students of the University. Among the performers is a student from Finland, **Mercy Olson**. —www.utoledo.Tix.com

Sweden Defense // Sweden to buy US missile system worth over \$1 billion. The Swedish government said negotiations with the U.S. company Raytheon will target delivery of a Patriot defense system beginning in 2020, and for the system to be operational by 2025 at the latest. Raytheon has built more than 220 Patriot fire units and delivered them to customers in 13 nations including The Netherlands and Germany. The Riksdag (the Swedish Parliament) said the final decision to acquire a new medium-range air defense system would be reflected in the 2018 budget.

—[Reuters](#), Nov. 7, 2017 by Johannes Hellstrom, Mike Stone