

RESERVATION FOR NOVEMBER

Holiday Inn Express, Sunday, November 11, 2012.

Number of people: _____ @ \$22.00 each = \$ _____

Name: _____ Total \$ _____

Make check payable to: **SCANDINAVIAN CLUB OF TOLEDO** and mail to:
KRIS JOHNSON, PO Box 355, WILLISTON, OH 43468
Reservations with Checks must be in by Tuesday, Nov. 6th.

Member Dues

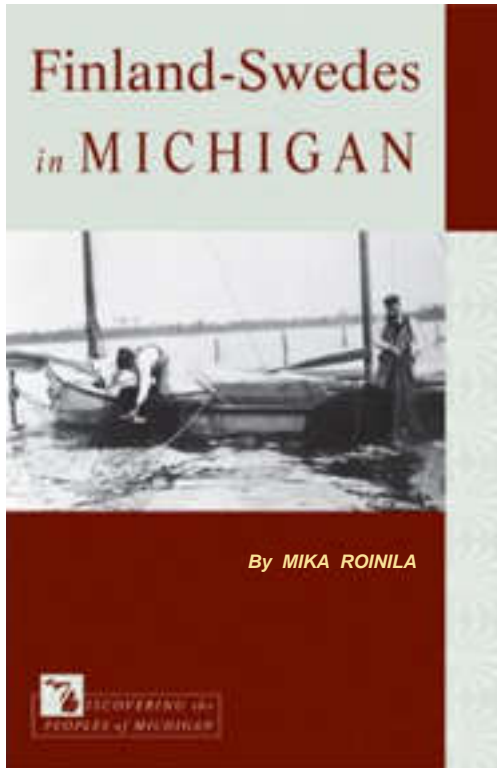
Membership is only \$15 per Adult.

Name(s): _____

Country: _____

@ \$15 each = \$ _____

Mail along with your reservation.



Finland-Swedes in Michigan

Defined as citizens of **Finland** with **Swedish** as their mother tongue, **Finland-Swedes** are also known as "**Swede-Finns**".

Mika Roinila's new book, *Finland-Swedes in Michigan* (msupress.msu.edu), examines the origins of the Finland-Swedes and traces their immigration patterns, beginning with the arrival of hundreds in the United States in the 1860s. Their numbers grew until the 1920s when immigration restrictions were put in place.

The Finland-Swedes brought with them unique economic, social, cultural, religious and political institutions. Drawing on archival, church and congregational records, interviews and correspondence, Roinila's book paints a vivid portrait of Finland-Swedish life in photographs and text, and also includes detailed maps that show the movement of this group over time. As a bonus you get some traditional Finland-Swedish recipes. ~\$12.00

—from **Scandinavian Press, Summer 2012**

å=aa

After **Århus, Denmark**, officially changed its name to **Aarhus** last year, the only local council still using the "ball a" in its name is the Copenhagen suburb of **Tårnby**.

The "ball-a" (å) which was officially introduced into the Danish alphabet in 1948, has existed in Sweden since 1526.

But in Denmark it has been the subject of much debate. After the 1948 reform, the big discussion was on where the letter should be placed in the alphabet. It ended up coming last in line. Danes have, on the whole, preferred to use the "double-a" (aa) and many local authorities continued to do so despite initial directives from the Danish Language Board that Nordic place names should use the "Å". In response to this, directives from 1948 allow for "Å" and double-a to be used interchangeably.

—**Scandinavian Press, Fall 2012**

Taking Tips from the Vikings

Climate-change studies are very trendy, so it is no surprise that the theme of this year's annual conference of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, held in Vancouver, Canada, in February 2012, was "Climate Change and the Long-Term Sustainability of Societies". Queuing up to give papers were lecturers all convinced that modern society could learn valuable lessons from the ways that people reacted to climate change in the past... including **the Vikings**.

If the old memory is still functioning accurately, were not the Vikings famous for responding to climate change by getting into their boats and heading for the rich pickings of monasteries located around northern Europe's coasts? Oh, and by sacking riverine cities like Paris? But these days we are not supposed to characterize the Vikings as marauding thugs: according to Professor Andrew Dugmore, of the University of Edinburgh, the reason why we should learn from the Vikings was that they "fared best by keeping their options open when managing their long-term sustainability."

In fact, the serious point that Professor Dugmore really wanted to make was that people in Medieval **Iceland** thrived despite a "perfect storm" of "climate and non-climate events" by developing new skills and trading in the up-and-coming commodities of fish and wood, whereas the Medieval communities of **Greenland**, who stuck to traditional Viking trade in prestige goods such as walrus ivory, experienced dramatic social decline. Really, then it was nothing to do with the weather — but you don't get research grants unless you bow to whatever altar happens to be fashionable with the research councils these days.

—by **Chris Catling** — **Current World Archaeology, #52**

Vicious Vikings?

Chris Catling's mention (**above article**) of Andrew Dugmore's research on how the Vikings responded to climate change in Iceland (CWA52, Chris Catling on...) reminded me of a postcard I bought in Norway which shows some of the Viking laws. I took it back to Australia to show my friends that the common perception of Vikings as 'berserking travellers' who pillage and kill is not necessarily accurate. Some of the laws include 'grab all opportunities', 'keep things tidy and organized' and 'arrange enjoyable activities which strengthen the group'. Wouldn't the business community be better if these were on display in every office?

By the way, the word 'berserk' comes from the Norwegian word **besøke** — to visit or call upon someone — but it has become more terrifying in English.

—**Sybil Holst Small of Moore Creek, Australia, in Current World Archaeology, #53. (Letters to the Editor)-**



Norwegian Lefse

is a special treat made every holiday season. Often eaten with butter and rolled up, it can also be flavored with cinnamon, sugar, or lingonberries — or whatever you like. Depending on the region of Norway, some Lefse is thin, some is thicker, but all are good!

This Recipe Yields 60 Lefse cakes

Ingredients

10 pounds **potatoes**, peeled
1/2 cup **butter**
1/3 cup **heavy cream**
1 tablespoon **salt**
1 tablespoon **white sugar**
2 1/2 cups all-purpose **flour**

Directions

1. Cover potatoes with water and cook until tender. Run hot potatoes through a potato ricer into a large bowl. Beat butter, cream, salt, and sugar into the hot riced potatoes. Let cool to room temperature.
2. Stir flour into the potato mixture. Pull off pieces of the dough and form into walnut size balls. Lightly flour a pastry cloth and roll out lefse balls to 1/8 inch thickness.
3. Cook on a hot (400 degree F/200 C) griddle until bubbles form and each side has browned. Place on a damp towel to cool slightly and then cover with damp towel until ready to serve.

—from allrecipes.com/recipe/norwegian-lefse/