



THE
SCANDINAVIAN
CLUB of TOLEDO



OLAV GJESDAHL, founder

OCTOBER, 2014

ERIC SLAWSON, editor

Nordic News

*Our October meeting
will be held at
Honey Diner
on Friday, Oct. 17th, at 6 PM.*

Program :: Our new President, John Jacobson, will moderate a discussion of “**Current Scandinavian Events**” at our October meeting. Members are encouraged to bring articles with them to the meeting to discuss after dinner. Join in the lively discussion as we review social and political events happening back in the home countries.

Menu :: We'll order off the menu, individually, this month.

Reservations :: Please contact our treasurer, Kris Johnson, at kris.johnson@ecunet.org or at 419-836-7637. Let Kris know your name and how many of you will be attending, so that she can inform the restaurant of our number. **Reservations due by Noon, Thursday, Oct. 16th.**

Location :: **Honey Diner** is located at 7250 SR 795, east of Perrysburg, Ohio.

DIRECTIONS: From I-75, exit at Rt. 795 in Perrysburg, near the Ohio Turnpike, and head East on 795 for about 2 1/2 miles. Honey Diner Restaurant is on the Left side of the divided highway. We'll meet in the back room.

Stormy Seas & Scandinavian Sunsets

The Toledo Symphony, at the Toledo Museum of Art's Peristyle

Enjoy an evening of wonderful Scandinavian music here in Toledo!

This unique October program paints a vivid picture of life on the North and Baltic Seas. The Toledo Symphony Orchestra's own David Saltzman (tuba) performs the TSO premiere of Norwegian composer Arild Plau's evocative concerto for tuba and strings, while guest conductor Karina Canellakis (pictured above) shapes musical postcards from the UK and Finland.

Program: Four Sea Interludes by British composer Benjamin BRITTEN, Concerto for Tuba and Strings by Norwegian composer Arild PLAU, and Symphony No. 2 by Finnish composer Jean SIBELIUS.

Dates: **October 17th and 18th, 2014. Show Time: 8:00 pm both days.**

So our Scandinavian Club members can come to our regular meeting on Friday, and then go to the concert on Saturday! Get there early so you can park behind the museum in their new semi-covered parking area.

Contact: 419-246-8000 or Email: toledosymphony@toledosymphony.com

Location: [Show map](#) of Toledo Museum of Art.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

For this, my second report as President, I would like to set out what I would like to see the Scandinavian Club of Toledo do in the upcoming year, starting with the meeting on October 17. As an experiment I will attempt to use technology to present a program of current news in the way of a program showing television programming from the Nordic countries. I would request that the members bear with me, since this is an experiment, and I do not know how it will work out. It will be done with a television and a YouTube collection of news programs from their Scandinavian sources, some in the languages of their citizens, hopefully with subtitles for those who, like me, even have trouble with English from time to time.

The meeting will be held at the Honey Diner, which has a meeting room perfect for this, so please bear with me while we try something new.

In November, for those who are interested, we will be taking a short trip to IKEA, the mecca for do it yourself furniture, and Swedish goodies, such as herring, knäckebröd, and lingonberries. My wife and I make sure that we travel there before the big holidays so we can be sure that we have those things on hand. I would also appreciate it if any member has ideas for future meetings: topics, places to visit or anything related to the Nordic countries.

Tak så mycket

John L. Jacobson

Club News

Upcoming Club Meetings:

- **November 23rd:** IKEA Trip! Meet at Meijer on Alexis at Noon.
- **December 7th:** Julfest at Lois's neighborhood clubhouse at 4pm.
- **Next Board Meeting** is in early November, when we'll be setting meeting details for the coming months. Members are welcome to attend. Email the Club for details.

Club Board 2014-2015

scandinavian-club@hotmail.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.

Not a Member? Join Us!

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**

notes

// **Finland** hosted talks, in June, to maintain peaceful relations between the USA and Russia.

// The first successful birth of baby born to a woman with a transplanted womb occurred in **Sweden** last month. The 36-year old woman was born without a uterus, but received one from a close family friend, who was over 60. The baby boy, born prematurely, is doing fine. —NPR News

// **Sweden** is first country to recognize **Palestine** as an independent country. Objections from the Israeli government would be relayed, says the Swedish Ambassador, to the Swedish government. Sweden hopes that this will encourage other countries to do the same. —NPR News

// **Nobel Prize**: In the spirit of Alfred Nobel, the Prize rewards an invention of greatest benefit to mankind: This year's prize for Physics goes to three Japanese Nobel Laureates are rewarded for having invented the Blue Light-emitting Diode (LED), which has led to the ability to create bright white light with new energy-efficient, environment-friendly, and long-lasting alternatives to older light sources. [Read more](#) for other winners.

// In **Finland**, men are moving into female-dominated occupations. The traditional, strict division between so-called male and female jobs has slackened in certain sectors in, with men increasingly venturing into the social and health care, pharmaceutical, commerce and tourism industries. —Helsinki Times



SWEDEN—Scientists from the universities in **Lund, Uppsala, and Stockholm**, together, studied the effects of bacteria in and on honey bees with respect to the bees' health in a study funded by a variety of **Swedish** organizations. They found that honeybees possess an abundant, diverse and ancient Lactic Acid Bacteria (LAB) microbiota in their honey crop with beneficial effects for bee health, defending them against microbial threats. The study has revealed one of the largest collections of novel species of the genera *Lactobacillus* and *Bifidobacterium* ever discovered in a single insect, suggesting the more than 80 million year history of association with the honeybee is what protects bee health. Despite the long relationship, however, the authors anticipate that future studies will find this insect-microbe symbiosis can be affected and damaged by changing environmental factors, including poor beekeeping practices, which might lead to colony collapse disorder.

Read the entire study, "[Symbionts as Major Modulators of Insect Health: Lactic Acid Bacteria and Honeybees](http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0033188)", at: <http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0033188>



Scottish artist Katie Paterson, has created a piece of artwork she calls "Future Library", which is made up of a stand of woods, made up of 1000 trees that she has planted, outside Oslo, Norway, and a growing collection of stories written by 100 different authors, collected one per year by the Future Library Foundation. In 100 years time, the trees will be turned into pulp for paper and the stories will all be printed. Prize-winning author Margaret Atwood is the first author

selected. Unfortunately, non of us reading this article will ever be able to read any of these stories as they are to be stored in a special room in the new Oslo Public Library (*Diechmanske Hovedbibliotek*), and will remain inaccessible until they are printed on paper in 2114. Only the authors' names and book titles will be viewable. But we can guess what country will steal the literary headlines that year!

Read more and watch the videos at www.futurelibrary.no

Get this newsletter by email! Sign up today!

General elections were held in **Sweden** on September 14, 2014, to elect the Riksdag, all 21 county councils, and 290 municipal assemblies. The center-right Alliance for Sweden coalition (comprising the Moderate Party, Liberal People's Party, Centre Party and Christian Democrats) sought a third term in government. In contrast to the previous election, the three largest left-wing parties (the Social Democrats, Green Party and Left Party) ran independent campaigns, as did the Sweden Democrats, a nationalist party. A fourth left-wing party, Feminist

Initiative, did not secure the 4% threshold.

The election results saw the three left-wing parties outpoll the Alliance for Sweden, with the two blocs respectively winning 159 and 141 seats. The Sweden Democrats doubled their support and won the remaining 49 seats. Fredrik Reinfeldt, the incumbent prime minister, has announced his intention to resign.

Nearly 6.3 million, of the 7.3 million registered voters in Sweden, turned out to vote.

—More at Wikipedia.com

Swedish Elections Sway Left

Icelandic Skyr Coming on Strong

Skyr (pronounced "Skeer") is Iceland's traditional equivalent of yogurt. It is made by incubating skim milk with live active cultures.

According to the **Sagas**, the original stories of the Norse Vikings, Icelanders have made skyr since settlers from Norway first arrived on the island in the 9th century. Culinary historian Hallgerður Gísladóttir has suggested that skyr was known throughout Scandinavia at the time of the settlement of Iceland, but was eventually forgotten outside of Iceland.

Skyr has always been made from **skim** milk, after the cream has been floated off the whole milk to make **butter**. The skim was incubated with cultures and the resulting "yogurt" strained to take out the whey. The **whey** that subsequently came off the skyr was then used to pickle various foods in the summer to help last out Iceland's long, arduous winters. Thus, skyr was part of a process that historically was centered on maximizing the yield and storage time of milk.

Up until the 19th century, skyr was made from **raw**, unpasteurized sheep and/or cow milks. However, not much sheep's milk is used today, and all is pasteurized, which does change the flavor somewhat.

Until early in the last century, skyr was made on many if not most family farms and homes in Iceland. The process was revered as an art form, even as magic, and numerous words existed in Icelandic for failed attempts at skyr making. With the advent of modern dairy farms, small-scale skyr production in Iceland has slowly become less common. Today, skyr is still a big part of the modern diet in Iceland, having enjoyed a resurgence of a kind in the past decades.

In the USA, Siggis is now available in some stores, causing some nervousness among yogurt makers.

But, it is possible to make your own. Here are some links to recipes so that you might try it yourself. Enjoy!

More at siggisdairy.com and at en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Skyr and at scandinavianfood.about.com and at www.theatlantic.com