



# Draken Harald Hårfagre

*Our September Meeting  
will be held at **Bravo**  
on **Friday, September 16th, at 6pm.***

**Program :: A Longship's Long Journey.** Our president will discuss his visit to see the Viking ship, *Draken Harald Hårfagre*, as it was moored on Lake Erie.

**Reservations ::** Please contact our treasurer, Kris Johnson, at [cjohnson143@woh.rr.com](mailto:cjohnson143@woh.rr.com) or at 419-836-7637. Let Kris know your name and how many of you will be attending, so that we know how many to expect.

**Location :: Bravo** is at Franklin Park Mall, and can be seen from Sylvania Avenue. We'll meet in one of their small rooms.

**Menu ::** We will be ordering individually off their menu.

## Viking Voyage

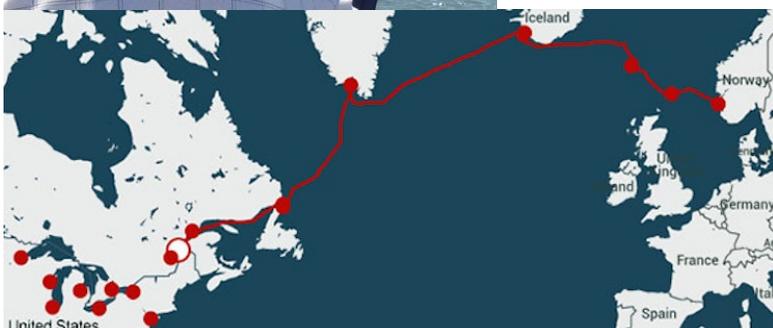
The modern Viking ship, *Draken Harald Hårfagre* (*Dragon Harald Fairhair*) made its way from Norway to the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Greenland, and finally to North America this summer. Then it was to sail the Great Lakes with other Tall Ships. But the voyage was not as smooth as it could have been. Here is an article about the difficulties this ship encountered when [entering the Great Lakes](#).



But it finally made it all the way to Green Bay, Wisconsin, where its voyage went as far as it would go.

Now it is sailing back out of the Great Lakes and will hit New York in the middle of September as planned.

Visit the [Draken Expedition America](#) website for more information.



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

It seems hard to believe that summer is coming to its usual end, especially since the temperatures are still uncomfortable. Carol and I did have an opportunity to see the *Draken Harald Hårfagre*, the longship built in Norway and sailed across the Atlantic, up the St. Lawrence, all the way to Wisconsin. I will be talking more about it at our meeting on September 16 at Bravo. In the meantime we are getting ready for our annual trek to Stratford, Ontario, for the Shakespeare Festival. I know it's not Scandinavian, unless, of course, you wish to see Hamlet, but it is great theatre. See you all on the 16th.

Tack så mycket, John

## Calendar

- Scand Book Club, Tuesday, Sept. 13th, at 7pm, Second Hand Books. "*Sophie's World*" a 1991 novel by Norwegian author Jostein Gaarder is our book this month. Join us!

## Dues are due

It's that time of year again, when we begin our new fiscal year. And with that, we ask that you renew your membership to our Scandinavian Club of Toledo. Dues remain the same as last year, at \$15 per adult; children are free. With your membership, comes this newsletter, chock full of news from and about the five Scandinavian countries; as well as social access to a network of Scandinavian-minded people with whom you may share cultural distinction, regard, and friendship. 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, and we'd love to see you! Please send your dues to our treasurer today. Details are at the top of the next page.

## 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**

## Club Contacts

**ScandClubToledo@gmail.com**

**President: John L. Jacobson**

Vice President: Lois Staber

Treasurer: Kris Johnson

Secretary: Katherine Thompson

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

## In Memoriam

We have just learned that long-time Club members **Josie Johnstone** and **Tom MacLean** both died some months ago, Josie last December, and Tom in January. Both were in their upper 80s and were regulars with our Club while their health manages it, and together, they travelled to six of the seven continents.

Also, Willard Misfeldt's **sister**, as well as Kris Moazed's **father**, both died in June. Our condolences go out to you both.



## Iceland CO2

Scientists in Iceland have developed a way of pumping carbon dioxide deep underground where it mixes with volcanic matter forming a stable chalky stone.

—BBC news, 6-10-2016

## Takvandring

Looking for a different sort of activity on your next visit to Sweden? Try roof climbing! Especially brave tourists can literally walk the rooftops of some of Stockholm's highest buildings, just for the fun of it. It's a perfectly legal way to get a great view of the city. Guided tours ensure tourists are fully harnessed and latched into walkways with safety equipment, but there are not always railings to hold onto, and tours reach upwards of 43 meters (141 feet) above the busy streets of Stockholm, allowing breathtaking views of this beautiful capital city. There is also a rooftop tour in Sundsvall, on the north side of Stora torget.

—visitstockholm.com and takvandring.com for more information and booking.



## Iceland's Tourism Boom

—REYKJAVIK For centuries, fishing was the most important industry in **Iceland**. But then as vacationers discovered what this beautiful land and its people had to offer, more tourists came and booked hotel rooms, growing steadily over the years.

Recently, though, a new larger wave of tourists has come ashore: these are the fans of the HBO fantasy drama *Game of Thrones*, and they have been arriving in ever larger waves to see an actual setting of their beloved show. These tourists get a combination of fiction and history when they visit: they see one of the places where the show is filmed, in northern Iceland, and they see places where one of the show's elements, the Ironborn, is inspired, through the Icelandic Sagas of the Viking Age.

Tourist spending has been good for Iceland's economy, and now accounts for a full third of all money coming into the country. But the sheer numbers of tourists that have recently descended upon the island — 1.8 million so far this year — have pushed the small nation's infrastructure to the breaking point. And this growth is directly because of the sudden global popularity of *Game of Thrones*, which just finished its sixth season, with two more seasons scheduled.

When they're done seeing the sights by day, the throng of tourists do need a place to stay for the night. Hotels are at capacity, though, so Icelanders have started renting out their homes to tourists via AirB&B. And not wanting to miss out on the market, many landlords too are choosing to rent to tourists, as they can charge more than to locals, causing renters to find they can no longer afford their flats.

Much construction and infrastructure is in the works to alleviate these and other shortcomings, but they will take time to be implemented, leading to an environment today where tourist lines are long, restrooms seem far and few between, and prices dig deeply into one's wallet.

Many say the government should do something about the upheaval, either by controlling prices or the number of tourists that can come, but others say this would put a cap on private enterprise which may not be doable.

One thing is for certain, even though *Thrones* tourists have made it very crowded and expensive these days, for both tourists and locals, experiencing the wonders of this landscape and the warmth of its people still makes such an impression on visitors that they nevertheless come away saying that Iceland is an amazing place, and well worth the visit.

—View a very good 9 minute video on the PBS website, with lots of short interviews with tourists and with members of local tourism boards, and plenty of landscape shots. [PBS News Hour](#), 8-3-2016.

Movie-making is hardly new to Iceland, though. In addition to *Game of Thrones*, dozens of other shows and movies have used its unique landscape as a backdrop. *Prometheus*, *Interstellar*, *Star Trek*, *Noah*, *Batman*, *James Bond*, and *Flags of Our Fathers* all filmed there, and the new *Star Wars* also has scenes from Iceland. The first film crew to film there did it all the way back in 1920, and since then dozens have followed.

—Read more in the [Daily Mail](#) article from last year

