

September 15, 2006

Volume 1, Issue 9

The Midnight Sun

Only 2 Months Until ScanFest 2006!!

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It's the third year for ScanFest, Charlotte-Mecklenburg's only annual celebration of Scandinavian food and culture!

ScanFest is brought to you by SAGA of the Carolinas, a non-profit organization whose purpose is to bring together local Scandinavians and people with an interest in Scandinavian culture, in order to celebrate our traditions through an annual festival.

This year ScanFest will be held on Saturday, November 4, in the beautiful Wachovia Atrium in downtown Charlotte, NC. Live entertainment, arts and crafts, food, music and dance, children's activities, cultural exhibits and more will be the fare of the day. The festival runs from 11:00am to 5:00pm, and admission is free! Discounted parking (\$2.00) is offered in the Two Wachovia Center Parking deck. For more details, please visit www.ScandinavianConnection.org.

Interested in volunteering at ScanFest? With less than two months away, now is the time to sign up!

The volunteer areas available are:

- Café/Food court
- Children's activities



Cultural exhibits
Info/Welcome table
The volunteer shifts available are:

- 10:00am to 1:00pm
- 12:30pm to 3:30pm
- 3:00pm to 6:00pm

All volunteers will receive free parking in the Two Wachovia Center Parking deck.

For more information or to volunteer, please email or call Ulrika Pettersson, Ulrika@ScandinavianConnection.org, or 704.763.9152.

Decorations Wish-List

Do you plan on cleaning out your closets, craft boxes and attics soon? The decorations for this year's ScanFest have been in the making for several months now, but with a limited budget our decorations team is still looking for some materials to get the job done. If you have any **red or white felt, stuffing, old pillows, white plush fabric, or old "junk jewelry"** that you are looking to throw out, please consider donating it to us!

For donations or questions, please contact Ul-

rika Pettersson at Ulrika@ScandinavianConnection.org or 704.763.9152.

Folklore Needed!

One of the best ways to make an event feel festive and culturally authentic is to have people present who are wearing traditional dress that is representative of their heritage. We are always eager to have people choose to wear their folklore when they attend ScanFest, and we are also thrilled to have people participate in our Folklore Fashion Show when we highlight the clothes of different regions or our guests.

This year SAGA will also be representing Scandinavia at UNCC's annual Iifest on September 30.



UNCC will have a Parade of Nations in which they ask participants to

wear traditional dress.

If you have folklore you are interested in sharing, either by wearing it yourself or lending it to someone else, please contact Ulrika Pettersson at Ulrika@ScandinavianConnection.org or 704.763.9152.

Many thanks to everyone who does what they can to help make ScanFest Charlotte a reality. This event could not be possible without our enthusiastic volunteers!

Calendar of Events

- **ScanFest 2006 Planning Sessions**
Living Saviour Lutheran Church
6817 Carmel Road
Charlotte, NC 28226
Sunday, October 15
Sunday, October 29
4 pm
- **ScanFest 2006!**
Wachovia Atrium
301 S. Tryon Street
Charlotte, NC 28202
Saturday, November 4
11 am - 5 pm



Fabulous Photos From Our Friends



Many thanks to Sami Kahra and Rodger & Else Grady for sharing these fabulous photos from their recent vacations!

Rodger says: It was unseasonably warm in May in Norway. That gave this Oslo man a chance to get an early start on his tan. Building in the background right is the Parliament.



Rodger says: Arendal is in the southeast of Norway. It is very hilly and rocky with narrow streets. To solve parking problems, they built a parking garage as shown in this photo. It is three stories high, and blasted from the inside of a mountain. Another is under "construction" just down the street.



Sami says: Here is one picture from the Kahra family summer on Saimaa - 2006 collection. Participants are Martti and Mathew fishing with uncle Saku Kahra in Kansniemi, Saimaa, Finland on 07.17.06. This was the only rainy day during July and August.

Would you like to see your friends and family in *The Midnight Sun*? We would, too! Send your photo or recipe submissions to Jenn@ScandinavianConnection.org by Friday, September 22.



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Recipes from Coastal Sweden submitted by Isabella Wiel

There is really no background to these recipes other than that I have collected recipes since I was a child, and then when I met my mother in-law (she did a lot of cooking for representation) I observed her cooking. Being artistic myself I really enjoyed reading recipes and envisioning the end result. I began changing this and that and coming up with some good results - and some not so good. I think it's important to adapt dishes to your own taste. You really don't have to follow recipes so strictly.

But if you follow the pie recipe you're in for a success! It is from the coastal region of Sweden.

I'm also sending you a wonderful bread recipe from one of the islands of Sweden's west coast. We love this bread. It is good as is, with butter or cheese, and also compliments soup. I read an article about an old man who lives on an island. He is named Kalle and this is his recipe. I tried it because I love cardamom, and it is fantastic. Thank you, Kalle!

Shrimp Pie

Dough:

1 1/4 stick margarine or butter
1 cup of flour (chop the butter and flour together and then add water)
2 tbsp water

Let this dough rest in refrigerator for 30 min

Filling

6 hardboiled eggs
500 g small cooked shrimp
1 can of asparagus (225 g)
1/3 cup finely chopped dill

Topping

1/3 cup mayo
1/3 cup whipping cream
2 eggs
3/4 tsp mustard powder
1/2 cup shredded cheese

Instructions:

1. Roll out dough. Put in pieform. Put in foilstrip around edges. Poke dough with fork.
2. Bake at 425f for 15- 20 min. Lightly brown.
3. Remove foilstrip and fill form with egg wedges, dill shrimp and asparagus
4. Whipped cream mixes with mayo and egg yolks.
5. Hard whipped egg whites mixes with mustard powder and blend with whipped cream blend.
6. Pour over shrimp
7. Sprinkle cheese over and bake at 425°F for about 15 min until golden brown.



Isabella and her daughter at ScanFest 2005

Kalle's Island Bread

1 1/3 stick margarine
4 cups of milk
3 teaspoons sugar
1 teaspoon crushed cardamom
12 cups of bread flour

Instructions:

1. Melt margarine.
2. Add finger warm milk.
3. Mix the yeast with 1/3 cup of water that is just a little warmer than finger warm. Use a whisk and whisk until dissolved.
4. Mix all liquids.
5. Start adding cardamom and sugar, then slowly add flour.
6. When dough becomes elastic, sprinkle with flour, cover and let rise for 30 min.
7. Preheat oven to 530°F.
8. Place cookie sheet on 2nd shelf of oven.
9. Knead dough; divide into 10 pieces.
10. Form into round balls; cover with towel.
11. Roll to 3/8 inch thick and "nagga." If you don't have that special breadpin with pattern, use a fork and poke a lot of little holes.
12. Put on top of each other with towel between each.
13. Starting with the bottom circle of dough, "nagga" once more and place on baking sheet; bake for about 3 minutes.

Great Shopping at ScanFest!

Don't miss the authentic Scandinavian goods available at ScanFest 2006! We will feature the following vendors:



Janswede Clogs

FinnAm LLC

Riitta Virtaranta, Finnish Imports

Hyggeligs by Cindy

Skiwalk Inc.

Historic Edged Weaponry

Isabella Wiel, Swedish Crafts

Ulrika Pettersson, Scandinavian Imports

NH Designs, Viking Era Jewelry

Nordicflow Pottery

Danish Delight Bakery

Stay tuned....more vendors are being added every week!

International House to Host Nordic Gala

It's time to "Light Up the Nordic Night" at the 25th anniversary of International House. The benefit Gala that marks the celebration will be held on Saturday, September 30th at the Westin Charlotte Hotel from 6:30 pm. The gala showcases the rich traditions and breathtaking nature of the Nordic countries; Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden. To celebrate the event, Mayor McCrory has signed a Proclamation declaring September 30 "International House Day" in recognition of 25 years of serving the local community.

Numerous Nordic diplomats and other dignitaries will attend this year's festivities. From the Nordic Embassies in Washington the Icelandic Ambassador, the Danish Minister Economic Counselor and the Norwegian Minister Counselor for Economic Af-

fairs will join the silver celebration. In addition, the Honorary Consuls from Iceland, Finland, Norway and Sweden will represent the Nordic states for a "night in the land of the midnight sun." Local dignitaries including the Honorary French, Canadian and German Consuls as well as Pat McCrory, the Mayor of Charlotte, have confirmed their participation at the event.

The event will feature a silent and live auction with premier items such as diamonds from Donald Haack Diamonds, airline tickets from Lufthansa German Airlines and IcelandAir, jewelry from Tiffany's & Co. as well as other unique and exciting Scandinavian items. The guests will have the opportunity to enjoy SCANDANS, a Scandinavian folk-dance group that en-

chanted Charlotte at the 2005 ScanFest. SCANDANS presents the music, the dances and traditional attire of the Nordic countries.

All proceeds from the gala support the programs and services of International House. International House is a leading organization that promotes international understanding by serving as a center for diversity, advocating for people of diverse national backgrounds and facilitating professional and cultural exchange programs. For ticket information and sponsorship opportunities, please contact Adele Daniels, Development Manager at International House, at (704) 333-8099 or e-mail adaniels@ihclt.org. You may also visit our website at www.ihclt.org.

Advertise With *The Midnight Sun!*

September's edition of **The Midnight Sun** kicks off our new program where we are making advertising space available in **The Midnight Sun!** For the remainder of 2006, we will offer business card sized ad space (3.5" x 2") at the rate of \$20 for 3 issues, running in the October, November, and December issues.

To advertise with us, your ad copy and payment must be submitted and **postmarked no later than Tuesday, September 26**. Ad copy can be submitted electronically (in .jpg or .tif format, please) to Jenn@ScandinavianConnection.org, or a hard copy can be submitted with payment. Please make checks payable to **SAGA of the Carolinas**, and

mail to:

The Midnight Sun
Attn: Ulrika
P.O. Box 1416
Huntersville, NC 28070

If you have any questions, please contact Ulrika Petersson at Ulrika@ScandinavianConnection.org, or 704.763.9152.

SAGA in the Community

SAGA goes to UNCC's 31st Annual International Festival

The University of North Carolina Charlotte presents its 31st International Festival - or "Ifest" - on **Saturday, September 30, 2006**. Ifest is a celebration of the many different cultures represented in Charlotte. Different nationalities are represented through cultural displays, crafts, music, dance, and vendors selling foods inspired by many different countries. Activities such as face painting, passport project, and a 22-ft Earth Balloon are also available. This one-day event will be

held on the Campus of UNC Charlotte in the Barnhardt Student Activities Center. The festival runs from **10 A.M to 6 P.M. Admission and parking are free.** For more information, visit www.uncc.edu/ifest

This will be the 2nd year that **SAGA of the Carolinas** will participate in "Ifest", which gives us the opportunity to bring Scandinavian culture, history and the ethnic variety of the Nordic region to Charlotteans, and to promote **Scan-Fest 2006**. Those of us who volunteered and attended the festival last year had a fabulous time – so don't miss it!

Plans for this years event are already well underway, and we are now looking for people who are interested in volunteering. The volunteer shifts available are:

- 9:00am - 12:00pm
- 12:00pm - 3:00pm
- 3:00pm - 6:00pm

If you are interested in volunteering, or if you have any questions, please contact Ulrika Pettersson at Ulrika@ScandinavianConnection.org, or 704.763.9152.

The Town of Waxhaw Presents: Autumn Treasures 2006

Waxhaw is a historic yet progressive town located in Union County and south of Charlotte, North Carolina. Waxhaw's uniqueness is defined by its diverse character of antique stores, scenic horse farms, and a downtown district listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Autumn Treasures 2006 is a 2-day

fall festival which offers arts, crafts, antiques and more in historic Downtown Waxhaw. The event takes place Saturday, October 14 (10:00am-6:00pm), and Sunday, October 15 (11:00am-6:00pm). **SAGA** has decided to participate as a vendor on Saturday only, using this as a fundraising opportunity by offering the visitors a "Scandinavian Café". Proceeds will be used towards the costs associated with **Scan-Fest 2006**.

We are now looking for people who are interested in volunteer-

ing. The volunteer shifts available on **Saturday, October 14**, are:

- 9:00am - 12:00pm
- 12:00pm - 3:00pm
- 3:00pm - 6:00pm

If you are interested in volunteering, or if you have any questions, please contact Ulrika Pettersson at Ulrika@ScandinavianConnection.org, or 704.763.9152.

For more festival information, visit <http://www.waxhaw.com/nav.cfm?cat=18&subcat=86&subsub=64&action=detail&id=21&backaction=search>



Gifts from Finland

Fazer candies, Sasta clothes, Feelmax Toe socks, Savu Smoker Bags, Iittala, Marimekko, handmade crafts

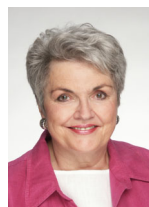
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We're on the Web!

www.ScandinavianConnection.org



Mission Statement

SAGA of the Carolinas, a non-profit organization, is organized to promote cultural exchange between the United States and the Nordic Countries of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden; to preserve and enjoy the Scandinavian traditions, customs, history and cultural heritage; to increase understanding of the Nordic people and societies among Americans; and to provide a forum where people interested in Scandinavia can meet and enjoy Nordic culture and activities.

Calling all Scan-Am Groups!

If your group or organization would like to have your events or news included in the next issue of The Midnight Sun, please send your submission of 100-200 words to Jenn@ScandinavianConnection.org by Friday, September 22.

Man Throws Mobile Phone 292 Feet to Win Contest

SAVONLINNA, Finland (Aug. 28) Anyone wanting to throw away their mobile phone can do it in style and may even win a medal - at the Mobile Phone Throwing World Championship, Finland's latest contribution to offbeat athleticism.

Originally a local event in this small town close to the Russian border, the seventh annual contest Saturday drew some 100 throwers from as far afield as Canada, Russia and Belgium.

Founder Christine Lund describes the event as a good source of light exercise with an environmentally friendly

twist. "There are a lot of mobile phones on the second-hand market, and we are recycling them (before they become toxic waste)," she said.



The inventive Finns had already given the world the Sauna World Championships and the Wife Carrying Competition before coming up with a new way to make mobile phones even more mobile.

This year's gold medal went to Finland's Lassi Etelatalo, who flung a

scrapped Nokia unit a forceful 292 feet. "I prepared by javelin throwing, I haven't really practiced throwing mobile phones," Etelatalo told Reuters.

In the freestyle event, Dutchman Elie Rugthoven's phone landed outside the designated area, but he still won silver thanks to a phone juggling performance that impressed the judges.

Lund says competitors all have their favorite throwing brand. "People choose by size, by color or by how it fits in the hand ... Some believe a heavy model will ensure a long throw, some want a light one."