

The Midnight Sun

ScanFest of the Carolinas 2007 - Fun for the Whole Family!

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ScanFest of the Carolinas kicked off at 11:00 am on Saturday, November 3, 2007. With a number of new and exciting activities and entertainments, it was our most well-attended and successful festival to date!



With our cultural displays, Viking Village, performances from Scandans and the Finnish and Swedish schools, and of course the delicious offerings of Taste of Scandinavia and Café Scandinavia, there was something for everyone to enjoy.

As soon as the coffee smell filled up the Atrium around 9:00 AM there were coffee drinkers lurking around **Café Scandinavia**. It is amazing how tempting coffee can be early in the morning. Café volunteers had baked furiously before the festival to make sure

they had enough pastries to sell the day of ScanFest. There were bundt cakes, chocolate balls, cookies, cinnamon rolls



and Lucia buns. Nearly everything was gone by the end of the day. Hopefully you got your share of the goodies!

Taste of Scandinavia was the newest invention of SAGA of the Carolinas at ScanFest 2007. The food line was never ending for most of the day. The most popular items at this section were the Danish Hot Dogs and the Swedish meatballs. Spinach pancakes

and yellow pea soup were tasted by many as well. Taste of Scandinavia served various Nordic salads, too, but were less popular than the hot items. All food was sold out



and leftover side items were donated to Uptown Men's Shelter at the end of the day.

The **Raffle and Silent Auction** booth was bustling all day long at ScanFest. We had great



prizes this year from IKEA, Chinet, JanSwede, Hyggeligs, Isabella Wiel, and Uptown Hilton, just to mention a few. The grand prize from Icelandair was 2 roundtrip tickets from Baltimore, MD to Scandinavia. The winner was one of ScanFest's vendors,

Cindy Shepperd. **Congratulations Cindy and family!**

The Vikings were a HIT! Their participation at the festival gave visitors a unique look into how the Vikings used to live, provide to their families and fought for their lives. The Viking Village showed reenactments of Viking handicrafts such



as weaving and chainmail making. All

Calendar of Events

- Scandinavian Christmas Fair
State Fairgrounds
Raleigh, NC
Saturday, December 1
10 am - 6 pm
- SAGA Annual Meeting
Living Saviour Lutheran Church
6817 Carmel Road
Charlotte, NC 28226
Sunday, January 27
4 pm

ScanFest 2007 - Fun for All!

con't from pg. 1 visitors were allowed to try the true Viking helmets and outfits on, hold the swords and interact with the group, but the highlight of the day was the demonstration of how the Vikings used their weapons - an exciting display of ancient warfare!

ScanFest Kid's Korner kept the youngest festival visitors occupied with Nordic activities. There was Fishing at the



Baltic Sea, making Viking helmets and/or flower wreaths out of paper, Legos, coloring Nordic themed pages as well as decorating gingerbread cookies. The best part of course was to be able to eat the cookies afterwards!

Did you know that there were less than 10 people working all year long to make that ScanFest



happen? Did you know that it took almost 100 volunteers working at ScanFest to make sure all visitors had a pleasant time and everything ran smoothly? Why not join the fun and help create ScanFest 2008, as we celebrate our 5-year anniversary? It really takes a village to build a festival. We are all unpaid volunteers who enjoy sharing the Nordic Culture, and we have a lot of fun planning

ways to highlight the best of Scandinavia for our neighbors in the Carolinas. Next year is guaranteed to be our biggest, most exciting festival to date. Contact Sanna Tucker at sanna@scandinavianconnection.org to join the fun.

If you are already part of our group, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

We hope to see all of you next year at ScanFest of the Carolinas 2008!

Congratulations to Adeline, Winner of ScanFest's First Pippi Longstocking Look-Alike Contest!



The first ever Pippi Longstocking Look-Alike Contest was held at ScanFest 2007. Thank you to Signa Curry who started this tradition and organized everything for us.

The contest had 9 participants ranging in age from 4 to 9 years old. There even was one boy, Logan, who won 3rd place! The original Pippi Långstrump movie's theme song welcomed the contestants to the stage one by one. The contestants were asked to hop and skip like Pippi and imitate Pippi's strength by showing their muscles. The winner of ScanFest's first Pippi contest was Adeline Lipton and second place winner was Emma Tucker.

Congratulations Adeline!

Sons of Norway Lodge #3-679 in Charlotte

From Viking Vistas:

The Sons of Norway is coming to Charlotte. A very successful day at Charlotte's ScanFest resulted in the 3rd District VP Ralph Peterson getting the names of over 40 potential members. In addition to the potential members, four signed up that day. These along with the over 40 current members of the SON living in the Charlotte area should provide more than the 40 members that are required to start a lodge. The SON is looking forward to working with FOS and other Scandinavian organizations in the area to celebrate our Nordic heritage.

While the lodge is without a name it has been assigned the number 3-679 (Atlanta GA is assigned 3-678). The lodge will pick their own name when they are formed. You may join the lodge now by signing up on line at:

<http://www.sofn.com/home/index.jsp>, send in an application or call 800 945 8851 and ask for membership. If you are a member call the 800 number and ask for membership and they will transfer you to the 3-679 lodge over the phone. We will be holding an organizational meeting in January 2008 (date and place to be determined). If you are not on the mailing list, send your address to Ralph Peterson nodakralph@aol.com or call 757 318 9414.

Glögg and Gingersnaps - the Perfect Combination for a Cold Winter's Night!

Scandinavian Gingersnaps

(makes about 200)

Preparation time: 30 minutes

Cooking time: 10 minutes/batch

Oven temperature: 400°F (200 °C)



- 1 1/4 cups (300 g) butter
- 1 1/4 cups (300 g) sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup (250g) dark syrup
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons ginger
- 2 teaspoons ground cloves
- 1 tablespoon grated orange rind
- about 7 cups (1 kg) white flour
- 3 teaspoons baking soda

1. Boil the syrup and spices, add the margarine and beat until the mixture is cool.
2. Beat the eggs and sugar.
3. Mix the soda in with part of the flour and then combine with the syrup-margarine mixture. Add the whipped eggs and the rest of the flour. Do not knead the final mixture.
4. Cover the dough with plastic wrap and leave overnight in a cool place.
5. Roll out the dough, cut up into shapes and bake the cookies in the oven until golden brown.

Christmas Glögg

- 1 bottle of red wine
- 2-3 tablespoons Madeira (optional)
- 1/2 cup raw sugar, or to taste
- 1/3 cup raisins
- 1-2 sticks cinnamon
- 5-6 whole cloves
- peelings of orange
- 1/4 cup blanched, slivered almonds
- 1/4 cup vodka to spike it up (optional)



Photo: Studio Fotoni

In a large kettle, combine all the ingredients except the vodka. Heat slowly, until the drink is steaming hot. Stir every now and then, and taste with a spoon whenever you feel like it. Do not let the drink get even close to boiling - just keep it warm. Before serving, add vodka if you wish. Serve with slivered almonds and raisins.

Suomi - Finland Club



Warmly invites you and your family to celebrate

10th Anniversary of SFC Charlotte & 90-year old Finland

WHEN: Saturday,
December 8, 2007
4:00pm - 7:00pm

WHERE: Church of the Holy Comforter Episcopal
2701 Park Rd, Charlotte, NC 28209
Directions: www.holycomforter-clt.org/directions.aspx

Celebration includes:

*Traditional Finnish Christmas Dinner
Finnish School Performance / Celebration Surprise
Music Performance / Raffle / Gift bags for Children*

Please RSVP by November 22, 2007

Member Adult \$10, Member Child \$5,
Guest Adult \$18, Guest Child \$8,
(Child 2-12 yrs, children under 2 years free of charge)

Tervetuloa! Welcome! BYOB

To RSVP please email SFCharlotte@gmail.com.

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We're on the Web!

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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, January 4.

New Type of Volcano Discovered

From Iceland Review:

Researchers at the University of Iceland have discovered two rift zones on the Reykjanes ridge. Upon this discovery, they have uncovered a new type of volcano unlike any in the world. Interviewed by the national radio *RÚV*, geologist Ármann Höskuldsson claims that this is the most significant geological discovery in the last 40 years.



The University of Iceland and the University of Hawaii conducted a research expedition along the

ridge, which is in the sea southwest of Iceland, in mid June in search for more answers about the ocean floor. The research

ship, Knorr, was used for the expedition which took 32 days. The volcano has been named Njördur in honour of the ocean god of the old Norse mythology.

With this discovery, Höskuldsson says that it will be possible to trace the geological history 24 million years into the past. In addition, this finding will help geologists to understand how the hotspot under Iceland and the rift zone interact. Furthermore,

he argues that the rift zones have been moving southwards and that movement will continue for the next millions of years.