

The Midnight Sun

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WANTED: Enthusiastic people to volunteer at ScanFest 2008!

Charlotte-Mecklenburg's only annual celebration of Scandinavian food & culture will be held on Saturday, November 8, 11am-5pm, at the Wachovia Atrium.

ScanFest of the Carolinas would not be possible without the generous help of amazing volunteers, and you are hereby invited to help make this year's festival come to life!

From one year to the next, ScanFest is presented to an ever-growing public with much appreciated help from our volunteers. No job is a small job when it comes to making sure everyone has a wonderful experience. As a non-profit organization, SAGA is very grateful for the contributions made by all our volunteers each and every year, and knows that we could not present the festival without everyone's hard work and dedication. There are many different types of jobs for which we need volunteers, such as:

- Cultural Exhibits
- Festival Setup & Breakdown
- Lego Contest & Exhibit
- Raffle/Silent Auction
- Volunteer Station



If you would like to volunteer at ScanFest 2008, please complete an online volunteer application by visiting www.scandinavianconnection.org and click on "SCANFEST VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP". Please note that the deadline to register is October 10.

All volunteers who work 2 shifts (or more) will receive a t-shirt, lanyard, beverages & snacks, plus free parking in the Two Wachovia Center Parking deck.

For more info on volunteering, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Ulrika Pettersson at ulrika@scandinavianconnection.org.

Thank you for your time and support!

Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart. ~ Elizabeth Andrew

- Café/Food Court
- Children's Activities

6th Annual Charlotte World Soccer Tournament Set to Kick Off!!

The countdown has started! It's time for the 6th Annual local World Cup Soccer Tournament for adults (age 30+). Group Games to be held at 10:00 am on Saturday, September 6. There will be 20 national teams, including Sweden and Denmark, competing in the Group Games at Ramblewood Park in southwest Charlotte. Only the best of each group will play for the CUP in the Playoffs at 10:00 am on Saturday, September 20.

Are you a soccer fan? Then join SAGA in cheering on our Scandinavian teams during 2 days of exciting soccer action! There will be vendors, music, food, a playground for the kids, and of course quality soccer by the international players participating in the 2008 World Cup. For more information, visit www.charlotteworldsoccertournament.com.



Calendar of Events

- Charlotte World Soccer Tournament
Ramblewood Park
10200 Nations Ford Rd
Charlotte, NC 28273
Saturday, September 6
10 am
- UNCC Int'l Festival
Featuring Café Scandinavia
Barnhardt Student Activity Center
Saturday, September 27
10 am - 6 pm
- ScanFest 2008!
Wachovia Atrium
301 S. Tryon Street
Saturday, November 8
11 am - 5 pm

Water Restrictions in Effect - Let Autobell Do the Dirty Work!

Charlotte has made some progress with rainfall this year, but not enough to get out of last year's damaging drought situation. The latest blow last month was a series of water main breaks in South Charlotte that have stopped traffic and sparked a need for more mandatory restrictions. All residents who live south of I-85 will be prohibited from watering lawns, filling pools or fountains or **washing cars**. This goes back to the restrictions that were in effect late last year and early this year.

SAGA is selling **Autobell coupons for \$12.95 with no expiration date**. The coupons are honored in all 47 Autobell locations:

<http://www.autobell.com/locations.htm>

Autobell Does The "Dirty" Work..... But we get the benefits!

- By using Autobell Car Wash, SAGA of the Carolinas will help protect the environment from harmful waste water.
- Everyone will be saving water which is crucial, especially during the summer months.
- No rain outs. The coupon buyers can use the car wash they purchase at their convenience.
- Autobell is well established in the community. They have been serving North Carolina for 38 years.

Consider this...

The washing of cars and other vehicles on driveways and in parking lots can have a negative impact on the environment because the untreated wash water is discharged directly to

the ground or into lakes or streams through the storm sewer system.

The discharge of the untreated wash water and oil waste products to the ground or to surface waters through the storm sewer system is prohibited by North Carolina statutes. Mecklenburg County department of environmental protection recommends that cars be washed in an approved car wash.

AUTOBELL COUPONS ARE AVAILABLE! PLEASE CONTACT: sanna@scandinavianconnection.org TO PURCHASE YOUR CAR WASH COUPONS!

50% OF THE COUPONS PRICE IS A TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION. SAGA of the Carolinas is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your donation is tax deductible to the extend of the law. Refer to TAX ID # 20-3716812.

2008 brings the 5th Annual ScanFest of the Carolinas to Charlotte. We invite you to be part of it!

The Vikings, ScanDans, Taste of Scandinavia, Café Scandinavia, Pippi Longstocking and much more will fill Wachovia Atrium in Charlotte's Uptown this fall. The whole place will once again be transformed into a microcosm of Scandinavia at its best during an all-day celebration of the Nordic Countries.

ScanFest 2008 is scheduled for Saturday, November 8 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., will include entertainment, food and celebrations that represent the cultures of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.

The colorful day of flags, anthems, Old World costumes and music includes special attractions such as a bustling Scandinavian Marketplace, Viking Village and a delicious array of Nordic delicacies and pastries.

Please visit www.scandinavianconnection.org for more information.

Ad sales: Contact Sanna-Maija Tucker, info@scandinavianconnection.org

750 **ScanFest 2008** festival programs will be printed this year. They will include information about the Nordic Countries, including the history, national anthems, recipes, details about SAGA and **ScanFest 2008**.

All ads need to be print ready in .jpg or .gif format. SAGA is not responsible of designing advertisements for its ScanFest 2008 program booklet. SAGA's program is printed by Belk Printing Technologies and designed by one of our volunteers, Helen Kennedy. **Due date for all material and payment, September 1, 2008.**

Sponsorships: Contact Sanna-Maija Tucker, info@scandinavianconnection.org **Due date September 15, 2008**

Vendor Application: Contact Signa Curry, signa@scandinavianconnection.org **Due date September 1, 2008**

As always, we welcome gifts-in-kind and donations since we are a nonprofit organization. Your volunteerism is also greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at info@scandinavianconnection.org

A People among the People, a Land in the Land.

from www.eng.samer.se

Sápmi

The Sami live in four countries: Russia, Finland, Norway and Sweden. This large land area is called Sápmi. Sápmi extends over the whole of the northern part of the North Calotte area and into Russia, from the Kola Peninsula in the east to the Swedish province of Dalarna in the south.

How many?

No census of the number of Sami living in Sápmi has been carried out for a very long time, and the figures that are generally given are therefore approximate. There are a total of around 70,000 Sami in the four countries, with 2,000 in Russia, 6,000 in Finland, 40,000 in Norway and 20,000 in Sweden.

Indigenous population

The Sami are one of the world's indigenous peoples.

Photo: Jan Gustavsson.

The common denominator for such people is that they have always lived in the same place, before the country was invaded or colonised. They have their own culture, language and customs that differ from those of the rest of society.

Language

The Sami have their own language, or in actual fact three: Eastern Sami, Central Sami and Southern Sami. These are also known as the main dialects. The three also include a number of different dialects or varieties. Northern Sami, Lule Sami, Southern Sami and Ume Sami are all spoken in Sweden. It is estimated that only 20,000 of the 70,000 Sami across the whole of the Sápmi region speak the Sami language. Most speak Northern Sami. Sami is a Finno-Ugric language.

Trades

Around ten percent of the Sami in Sweden are employed in reindeer husbandry. Traditional Sami trades also include handicrafts, hunting and fishing. More recent trades include tourism, media, art and music.

History

Two thousand years ago, the Roman Tacitus wrote for the first time about a

people in the north that he called the Fenni. However, the history of the Sami goes back much further than this, and archaeological finds mean that their history is constantly being rewritten. The Sami's history also tells of the colonisation by the state authorities, taxation and forced conversion of the Sami to Christianity.



Politics

The organisational history of the Sami stretches back a hundred years, although the political parties were not formed until the creation of the Sami Parliament in 1993. The Sami Parliament is a publicly elected body and a state authority. Elections are held every four years.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs has overall responsibility for Sami issues from the Government's side.

One flag - one people

The Sami people live in four countries and have no national state of their own, but the Sami flag has been flying in Norway, Finland, Russia and Sweden since 1986.

The joint flag dates back to 1986. It was then that it was approved by the Nordic Sami

Council at a conference in Åre. The flag was designed by Astrid Båhl from Skibotn in Norway, and neither the colours nor the symbols are there by chance.

The circle is a symbol for both the sun and the moon. The sun circle is red and the moon circle is blue. The flag's colours - red, blue, green and yellow - are the same as in the traditional Sami costume, the kolt.

In 1992, the Nordic Sami Conference in Helsinki decided on the official Sami flag-flying days. The flag-flying days have subsequently been extended. In Sweden, many municipalities in the Sami region fly both the Sami and the Swedish flag.

At Scanfest 2008 we will present more about the Sami culture in a exciting exhibit.

If you by any chance are the proud owner of anything from the Samis that you would like to lend us for our exhibit please contact Isabella Wiel at 8 0 3 . 5 4 7 . 1 9 0 7 or email mwiel4@hotmail.com

Visit Café Scandinavia at UNCC's Annual International Festival!

Café Scandinavia and SAGA will once again be representing the Nordic countries at UNCC's annual IFEST on Saturday, September 27, 2008. We will be featuring such favorites as Silvia Cake, Cinnamon Buns, Pepparkakor, and Spice Cake, as well as Scandinavian coffees and bottled water. Information about ScanFest of the Carolinas 2008 and its 5th Anniversary celebration, and the limited edition commemorative T-shirts we will be selling at ScanFest, will be available all day.

IFEST 2008 will be held in the Barnhardt Student Activity Center at UNC Charlotte from 10AM-6PM. The festival is centered around booths arranged in colorful marketplace style representing the cultures of about 50 nations. Throughout the day the music and dance of a variety of nations will be presented on indoor and outdoor stages. In addition, the festival, which is family-oriented, offers a number of elements such as mimes and face painting designed especially for children.

For more information, visit <http://ifest.uncc.edu/>

The "World's Best" Cake From Norway.org:

"My favorite cake is Kvæfjord-cake," Norwegian Embassy chef Ingeborg Nygaard says. "It is so good that it is often just called 'verdens beste', which is Norwegian for the 'world's best'."

5/9/2007 :: Nygaard serves the cake as a centerpiece dessert during receptions at the Ambassador's Residence because it is a tasty and traditional Norwegian treat.

"In Norway we always serve Kvæfjord-cake at special occasions such as baptisms, confirmations, and on Constitution Day, so I figured it is a suitable choice of cake on prominent occasions at the embassy," she explains. "In addition, this cake is said to originate from Kvæfjorden, which is a village in Troms County where I grew up, so a little bit of patriotism seals my choice."

Ironically, Nygaard had never made the cake prior to her arrival at the embassy in the fall of 2006. "My mother makes the most delicious Kvæfjord-cake, so after deciding on this cake, I called her and got her special recipe. She is particularly known for her cake in the community,



Photo: Arild Strømmen

and is tasked with baking it for special occasions," the chef adds with a laugh. "Guests at the embassy love the cake, and someone always asks for the recipe."

"It is perfect, please save more cake for me," the French Embassy's chef said after tasting the Kvæfjord-cake for the first time. Nygaard's good friend, Monsieur Tanneau, had been hired to help cook at a large

event at the Norwegian Residence. He ended up with a new recipe for his menu at the French Residence. His version includes pears flambé, turning it into 'Kvæfjord-cake à la française.'

"The Kvæfjord-cake has a light, sweet taste and looks delicious," Nygaard says. "But the best thing about it is that anyone can make it."

Recipe For "Kvæfjord-Cake":

Step 1 -First layer of base

5½ ounces butter
¾ cup sugar
6 egg yolks
1 teaspoon vanilla sugar
6 tablespoons milk
1 cup all-purpose flour
1½ teaspoons baking powder

Whisk the sugar and butter until smooth and pale. Fold in the other ingredients. Mix well. Spread on a 14 x 17 inch baking pan lined with baking/greaseproof paper.

Step 2 - Second layer of base (meringue)

6 egg whites
1 cup sugar

Whisk sugar and egg whites together until stiff peaks form (meringue). Spread evenly over base made in step 1. Sprinkle 4 ounces sliced almonds on top of the meringue.

Bake the two layers together at 350 degrees Fahrenheit in lower part of the oven, for 25-30 minutes.

Step 3 - Filling

1 package instant vanilla pudding mix
1 cup heavy cream

To make filling, whip the cream and make the vanilla pudding separately. Then mix the cream and vanilla pudding gently together, and refrigerate until cold and firm. Let the cake cool down after removing it from the oven. Cut it in half. Spread the filling on top of one half, and cover with the other. Garnish with fruit or berries.

Bon Appétit!

Lise Rist / Royal Norwegian Embassy

50th Birthday of the LEGO Brick

The LEGO® Brick – A Quality Product

From *lego.com*:

The 50th birthday of the LEGO brick was in January 2008 and there was plenty to celebrate. Children all over the world have played with LEGO bricks for the past 50 years, and LEGO is still right at the top of many wish lists - just as it always has been. Industry and trade associations also recognize the LEGO success. Just before the turn of the millennium the LEGO brick was voted "Toy of the Century", one of the highest awards in the toy

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 19.

industry, by both Fortune Magazine in the US and the British Association of Toy Retailers.

The LEGO history began in 1932 in Denmark, when Ole Kirk Christensen founded a small factory for wooden toys in the unknown town of Billund in the south of the country.

To find a name for his company he organized a competition among his employees. As fate would have it however, he himself came up with the best name: LEGO - a fusion of the Danish words "LEg" and "GOdt" ("play well").

Barely 15 years later Christiansen discovered plastic as the ideal material for toy production, and bought the first injection moulding machine in Denmark. His courage, input and investment paid off: in 1949 he developed the LEGO brick prototype, which continues to excite countless children and adults to this very day. Over the years he perfected the brick, which is still the basis of the entire LEGO game and building system today. Of course there have been small adjustments in shape, colour and design from time to time, but today's LEGO bricks still fit bricks from



1958.

Production of LEGO bricks with Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene (ABS) began in 1963. This matt finish plastic is extremely hard, has a scratch

and bite-resistant surface, and is ideal for keeping the bricks connected. LEGO labs regularly monitor the high quality of the ABS for the bricks.

LEGO bricks are produced in special plants in Denmark, the Czech Republic and Mexico. The ABS compound is not delivered in a liquid form, but rather as granules, which are heated to 232° C until they melt. Injection moulding machines weighing up to 150 tons then press the hot and "goeey" plastic mass into LEGO brick shapes. The shapes dry and harden and, voilà - you have the famous...

LEGO brick!

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.

The Midnight Sun
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We're on the Web!

www.ScandinavianConnection.org



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 to Jenn@ScandinavianConnection.org by Friday, September 19.

LEGO Bricks Turn 50! con't from pg. 5

There are 2,400 different LEGO brick shapes, which are produced with the greatest of precision and subjected to constant controls. Each injection mould is permitted a tolerance of no more than one thousandth of a millimetre, so that bricks of every colour and size stay firmly connected, allowing LEGO fans to build entire cities from all kinds of LEGO elements.

LEGO bricks in boxes that are not sold are melted again and turned into new bricks, in accordance with waste prevention and environmental responsibility.

About the LEGO Group
The LEGO Group with its headquarters in Billund, Denmark, is the fifth largest toy manufacturer in the world in terms of sales. Besides traditional LEGO bricks, its portfolio comprises 25 additional product lines sold in more



than 130 countries. Worldwide, the LEGO Group today has 4,500 employees. The name of the company, founded in 1932, is made up of the two Danish words "leg" and "godt", meaning "play well".

In honor of half of century of Legos, we will have a Lego creation contest at ScanFest of the Carolinas 2008. Details coming soon!