

Scandinavian

Happenings in the Greater Jamestown Area

Winter 2019

Julmarknad

Swedish Jamestown opens their doors on Saturday December 7 for Market Day full of free food samples, raffles, music, folk dancing, workshops, and many other events as we prepare for Christmas. This traditional event in Sweden, is now part of our community and is sponsored by the Scandinavian Studies Program.

Begin the day at Jamestown Community College, Hamilton Collegiate Center from 9 AM to 1 PM for 32 tables of vendors. New vendors will join our local crafters to share their homemade as well as imported products. Homemade items include tomтар (Swedish gnomes), cookies, tablecloths, table runners, tote bags, aprons, pillowcases, and jewelry. There will be hand painted items in the Swedish style plus woven belts and a wide variety of items made of wood and straw. In addition, there will be a treasure trove of vintage items and books. Many new imported items such as Swedish God Jul wrapping paper and greeting cards along with an expanded array of items will be on display. If one wants to have a Scandinavian Christmas; this is the place to begin.

While at the college be sure to sign up for the three door prizes, enjoy some coffee or lingonberry drink and a goodie, watch the Lucia procession, listen to live music, attend a workshop on Swedish weaving, play a Viking game, make a craft and visit with friends. All the above is free and open to the public. At noon, a sampling of Swedish Christmas food such as ham, rice pudding, korv, and Jansson's Temptation (potato) will be served for a small donation.

The Roger Tory Peterson Institute of Natural History, next to the college, will offer free admission, tours, refreshments, marshmallow roasting and a door prize between 10 AM and 5 PM. Besides original artwork by Jamestown's Roger Tory Peterson, there is an exhibit by artist Guy Coheleach entitled "Wildlife in Art."

Take a trip out Foote Avenue for Jamestown's Swedish Ecklof Bakery. They are offering samples from 6:00 AM to 5:00 PM with freshly made Swedish seasonal items such as vort limpa bread, spritz and pepparkakor cookies, cardamom braids and rolls, Tom and Jerry mix, scorper, almond braids and tarts. Enjoy a korv burger or shop for deli meats and cheeses such as Bond Ost. A door prize drawing will be held.

A short distance away is Country Woods Country Store which has a Scandinavian Room with items such as traditional red wooden candelabra, tomtar, straw goats, ornaments, garlands, candles, rugs, Scandinavian purses, linens, and many other decorative items. Stop in for free coffee and enter a drawing.

While driving through town, one can stop at the Fenton History Center, all decorated for Christmas including the southern Sweden Ljuskrona Christmas tree in the Swedish Room. Open from 10 AM to 4 PM, admission is \$10 with accompanying children 18 and under free. The theme this year is "A Christmas Carol."

If you are still hungry, Peterson Farm offers samples of Swedish Christmas foods including meatballs, Julskinka (Christmas Ham), yellow pea soup, and alcohol free glogg. This is where one can place their order for Julskinka, sylta, lutfish, and korv. Visit the Scandinavian Gift Shop with many Swedish items such as books, ornaments, napkins, straw goats, food products and other items. Open from 10 AM to 5 PM, Enter the drawing for a gift basket. They also roast their own coffee known as Dalahäst Roasters.

Wegmans, open 24 hours, offers Scandinavian dinners to go on this day only or pick up some of Norm's korv, Bond ost, salt herring, lingonberry sylt, or WASA products. Samples will be offered. Svenska Spelman will be playing Swedish music from 1:30 to 3:30 and Thule Folk Dancers will perform at 2 PM.

This is the day to go to market with the area's largest collection of Scandinavian products along with opportunities to win prizes, try free samples and all the other activities. For more information call 716-665-0883 or check out the web site or Facebook page "scandinavianjamestown."



Viking Mixed Chorus Christmas Program

Jamestown's Viking Mixed Chorus will present their annual Christmas music program on December 15 at 3 PM at the Celeron Legion. This is an opportunity to hear the chorus share both English and Swedish music of the season.

Swedish Advent and Christmas Music

Our local Swedish community, through the Scandinavian Studies Program, will be broadcasting Advent and Christmas music around the world the entire month of December. The seasonal music will begin the first Sunday in Advent which is December 1 and can be heard locally on WRFA – FM which is 107.9 on the dial. The program is broadcast at 7 PM on Sunday nights and is rebroadcast at 3 AM on Sunday morning. The rest of the world, including regular listeners in Sweden, listen on the internet at wrlpalp.com. Gerd Brigotta introduces the music both in English and Swedish. The Scandinavian countries have great seasonal music which is available to anybody interested.

The School or the Swedish Juniors



Have you heard about The School or the Swedish Juniors? The school gathers at every Scandinavian Culture Day at JCC, the first Saturday of the month from October to May. The School or the Swedish Juniors was started at the end of 2015 by two native Swedes living in the area, Susanna Ecklof and Maria Malmström. The idea is to teach the children, Swedish descended Jamestowners, or people curious about the Scandinavian countries in general. The kids learn some Swedish words; but mostly about traditions, baking, and crafting. In October, they heard from guest speaker, Elizabeth Gattman, who has been living in Helsinki and taught about Finland. The Swedish Juniors are also associated with The Thule Children Dancers, under the lead of Mary-AnnEva Ingrao, and the annual Lucia celebration. This year's Lucia fest will be held on December 15 at 2:00 p.m. in the Tree of Life Lutheran Church at 825 Forest Avenue in Jamestown.



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Kamryn Harper has been selected as Lucia for 2019 by the American Scandinavian Heritage Foundation and the Thule Lodge Children's Club. Kamryn is the daughter of Matt & Julie Harper of Jamestown. Kamryn is 14 years old and is an Honor student in the 8th grade at Falconer Central School. Kamryn has participated in the Lucia program since she was old enough to join. She plays Junior Varsity Volleyball, Basketball and Softball. Her time outside school is spent either with a ball in her hands or on her 4-H projects which include Ceramics and Leathercraft. Kamryn loves animals and has been very successful showing sheep and pigs that are born and raised on her family's farm. Kamryn is a very busy girl but doesn't want to miss an opportunity to show her Swedish heritage.



The Lucia is a Swedish Christmas tradition that is celebrated all over Sweden. The candles and warmth of the pageant bring light into the dark of winter. Our local Lucia Pageant will be celebrated at Tree of Life Lutheran Church on Sunday, December 15, at 2:00 p.m. The pageant will be followed by coffee, Lucia buns (Lussekatter – made with saffron and topped with a few raisins) and cookies. During refreshments, the Thule Swedish Children Folk Dancers will share some ring dances. The entire program is free and open to the public.

Community Dance

Like to dance or want to learn? Attend the Jamestown Community Dance, which is held the third Friday of each month from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm at Tree of Life Church (formerly Holy Trinity) at 825 Forest Avenue, Jamestown, NY. There is live entertainment; and dances taught are contra, square, reels, mixers and Scandinavian. There is no experience or partner necessary. A light snack will be provided. Admission is \$5 with children under 10 free. This is a family friendly event. If you have any questions; please call the coordinator, Katie, at 716-489-4646.

2019 Scandinavian Folk Festival

Despite the heat wave, the 2019 Scandinavian Folk Festival enjoyed another great celebration of our Scandinavian culture. Highlights can best be visualized in the attached photos.



Scandinavian Folk Festival 2020

The nineteenth annual Scandinavian Folk Festival will be held July 17, 18 and 19. The Festival is pleased to announce that 34 performers will be flying over from Sweden to be part of the 2020 celebration. This group includes 28 Swedish folk dancers and six musicians. The musicians will be performing on the nyckelharpa, accordion (including some small accordions), fiddles, guitar and ukuleles. In addition, some members of the group are singers. The folk dancers, besides entertaining the crowds daily, will be offering dance workshops.

This is just the beginning of additional major plans that are in the confirmation process. Announcements will be made as contracts are signed. Regardless, 2020 will be a banner year.