

# Norden Folk

"the Midwest Institute of  
Scandinavian Culture"



January 2018 Issue: 1 Promoting Scandinavian Culture "visit our website & Facebook page"

## *From Meatballs to Malmö A Nordic Food Geek's Journey of Heritage*

Plans are well underway for the 45<sup>th</sup> annual Wahlstrom Nordic Workshop. This will be held at Beaver Creek on the weekend of Feb. 16-18. The main speaker for this event will be Patrice Johnson from the twin city area. More information about her presentation will be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

This year's student presentations are being organized by faculty from Finlandia University. Student presentations will begin at 9 on Saturday with Patrice's presentation scheduled for 11.

Dan Ryder will again provide excellent Scandinavian food for the weekend.

Many different crafts will be available for the weekend. Saturday afternoon participants will have to opportunity to compete in axe casting and kick sled racing.

The Finn Hall Trio will provide Nordic dance instruction and music at the workshop on Saturday evening, February 17, 7 to 9 p.m.

We expect students coming from UWM, St. Olaf, Gustavus, Mankato, the U of M, Luther, Finlandia, and Augustana, IL.



Anyone whose dues are received by Feb 10 is welcome to participate (at no charge) in the Saturday's activities including the noon lunch and evening meal. Please contact Orville Bierman (715-834-9378) or at ([biermaol@uwec.edu](mailto:biermaol@uwec.edu)) if you plan to attend since a head count is needed for the cook.



### Recent Events:

The Norden Folk annual meeting was held in June. After approving the financial reports and hearing other reports, the election was held. Dawn Bergstrom was elected Vice President, Linda Curtis was reelected as Secretary, and Marv Anderson was elected as a new board member.

Following the business meeting, a power point presentation was shown depicting the history of Norden Folk.

In early November Dr. Bruce Hanson, from New Richmond, and also a member of the Amery Swedish Club gave a talk on the Vikings. This event was held in the Eau Claire Public Library and was well attended.

## International Folk Fair

The International Folk Fair will be held this year on April 29 in the Davies Center on the UWEC campus. We will probably be assigned to one half of the beautiful Dakota ballroom which we will share with the Ager Association and the Sons of Norway.

The topic for this year's event is food and each group will plan their room activities accordingly. In addition to these room events, local chefs will demonstrate the preparing and making of their favorite cultural dishes. We have been asked to present some traditional Scandinavian baking methods.

*At the turn of the 20th century, it was said that when a Norwegian farmer was looking for that special girl to be his bride, his criteria was not how thin his prospective bride was, but instead how thin she could roll her lefse.*



### ***The worlds largest jubilee of a single filmmaker***

#### ***Ingmar Bergman 100th Anniversary Year***

*Ingmar Bergman, filmmaker, theatre director and author, is one of Sweden's all-time leading creative forces. Born in Uppsala, Sweden, on 14 July 1918, Bergman will be celebrated the world over on this the 100-year anniversary of his birth.*

## Syttende Mai

The Syttende Mai celebration will be held on May 17 at the Best Western Trail Lodge located at 3340 Mondovi Road in Eau Claire. This year is Norden Folk's turn to organize the events with the assistance of Sons of Norway and Ager Association. The speaker for this event is Pastor Grant Aaseng from Rice Lake. The title of his presentation is "Alt for Norge: My experience on a Norwegian Realty Television Adventure". More information about this event will appear on our face book page as we near the date of the event

Patrice Johnson is a Nordic food geek and meatball historian. She writes food and culture posts for a variety of web and print publications as well as the weekly column "Called to the Table" for the *Gaylord Hub*. She is the author of "Jul: Swedish American Holiday Traditions," and teaches Nordic food classes throughout the Twin Cities and beyond.



## ***Scandinavian Fun Facts:***

- 1. In Denmark, a flag is flown outside when it's someone's birthday. If you're not married when you turn 30, you will get a pepper shaker as a gift and men are called a Pepperman (in Danish: "pebersvend") while females will be a Peppermoid ("pebermø").*
- 2. While Finland is called "The Land of the 1,000 lakes", the country has more than 188,000 lakes with 98,000 islands!*
- 3. There is a 20 story light spire on a building in downtown Stockholm, and anyone with a smartphone can change the colors on the lights that are shining from it. Its creators hope that the work can stand as a statement on the power of democracy and the power of the public.*