

From the President and Board

Tom Benjamin

Email: benjamin@islandnet.com; phone 475-2824.

Bestu kveðjur með ósk um gleði og frið á komandi ári. I wish everyone happiness and peace in 2008, and I hope to see you at our events or to be in contact with you by phone or email.

Something we want to achieve this year is more involvement with club members. We'd like to see more of you at our events, and that may mean we need to put on different kinds of events, or that we need to communicate with you better. We want your input on that so we've created a short questionnaire with the membership renewal form.

Wanted: Newsletter Editor

As you all know Wayne Erickson had been editor for the past four years and now wants to give someone else the opportunity. So we need an editor to produce four issues a year of Fréttir. For many years the newsletter has been our most important way of keeping in touch with club members. All you need is good writing and editing skills, and familiarity with using Microsoft Word or similar software to create newsletters. Please contact Tom or any board member if you are interested.

News and items of interest are always welcome for the newsletter. Please contact us about possible articles based on travel to Iceland, genealogical research, Canadian communities with Icelandic ties, recipes, reports on lectures, performances and events and anything else you think might be of interest to other members.

Wanted: Gaming Account Liaison

One of the club's main sources of funding is the BC Government's Gaming Information & Services branch. Each year we are eligible to apply for a Direct Access Grant as a cultural organization, and we have received several \$3,000 grants to fund events and the newsletter.

We need someone willing to act as liaison with the gaming branch. Ideally we're looking for someone with experience applying for government grants for non-profit organizations, and who is willing to submit the club's application. This can all be done on-line and the period to apply runs from February 1 to May 31. Please contact Tom or any board member if you are interested.

2008 Membership and Survey

It's time to renew your membership and this year we're including a short survey so that we can match club activities to members' interests. Please take the time to fill in the enclosed membership and survey form.

Almanak

2008 Events at Norway House (unless noted)

<i>Jan 25</i>	Genealogy night (UVic Clearihue Room A107)	7 – 9 pm
<i>March 1</i>	Thorablót	6 pm
<i>April 25</i>	Social	7 pm
<i>June 17</i>	Independence Day potluck (date and location to be confirmed)	afternoon
<i>Sept 26</i>	AGM	5:30 pm
<i>Oct 24</i>	Social	7 pm
<i>Dec 6</i>	Jólahátíð Christmas Party	afternoon

Look out for upcoming Beck Lectures at

<http://gateway.uvic.ca/beck/>

Other Upcoming Events

- April 24-27* INL 89th Convention, Calgary, Alberta
see www.inlofna.org > 2008 Convention
or www.leic.ca
more information overleaf
- June 26-29* Maritime Mosaics Festival, Victoria, BC
- August 1-4* Islendingadagurinn, Gimli, Manitoba
tentative date, see www.icelandicfestival.com

Thorablót 2008 – Saturday March 1

Tickets are available from:

Tom Benjamin (tel. 475-2824 – Gorge/Tillicum),
Virginia Guenther (tel. 655-4864 – Sidney) and
Vorna Butler (tel. 721-3299 – Gordon Head).

Please contact whoever is closest to you.

\$25 for members, \$30 for guests, children under 12 half price.

Book early and let us know if you want to reserve a whole table (8 people); doors open at 5 pm, dinner at 6 pm.

Tickets must be prepaid, please make cheques payable to the "The Icelanders of Victoria"

Board of Directors, Icelanders of Victoria

Tom Benjamin	President	475-2824
Beverley Dondale	Vice President & Membership	475-2824
Fred Bjarnason	Treasurer	507-6253
Virginia Guenther	Secretary	655-4864
Jodi Johl	Coffee & Sales	721-4027
Kirsten Wright	Youth Involvement	
Reyna Jenkyns	Youth Involvement	483-4235
Lois Turner	Social Convener	382-3241
Norm Jonasson	Thorablót	727-9214
Trish Baer	Beck Trust	853-7656
Al Olafson	Member at large	727-6842
Aldis Farr	Member at large	
Kay Sessions	Member at large	595-0938
Brian Sessions	Member at large	595-0938
Runa Pleshak	Member at large	478-4778
Vorna Butler	Member at large	721-3299

www.victoria.tc.ca/Community/Icelanders

(case sensitive)

Wanted: Singers

Several members have asked that we have singing at some club events, particularly the Christmas Party. Anyone interested in participating or—more importantly—leading the singers please contact Tom or any board member.

89th Annual Icelandic National League of North America Convention “Our Future: Then and Now”

Date: Thursday to Sunday, April 24 – 27, 2008

Location: The Westin Calgary, 320 – 4th Avenue SW, Calgary, Alberta

Hosted by the Leif Eiriksson Icelandic Club of Calgary

Contact Co-Conveners for information:

Margaret Grisdale (403) 251-7018, grisdal9@telus.net

Gwen Mann (403) 242-9714, lgmann@shaw.ca

Registration: download registration form from the web site

www.leic.ca

Early Bird by February 8, 2008 \$145.00 /per person

Postmarked after February 8, 2008 \$165.00 /per person

Advertisements – anyone interested in advertising please contact Tom Benjamin (250) 475-2824



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