

From the President and Board

Tom Benjamin

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250.475.2824.

Thorablott will soon be upon us. If any one is interested in helping with the food preparation, either by working with us in the kitchen the day of the Thorablót, or beforehand with dessert preparation we would love to hear from you.

Bill Valgardson is our new editor for Frettir. Please send him any information that you want in the newsletter.

13th Annual Thorablót Dinner and Dance

Saturday March 7, 2009 Norway House 1110 Hillside Avenue

A fine midwinter feast produced by members of our club.

- Graf lax
- Herring
- Hardfiskur
- Hangikjöt
- Lifarpylsa
- Rullapylsa
- Assorted Salads and Dressings
- Assorted Pickles and Condiments
- Cash Bar with Beer and Wine
- Hot Hangikjöt
- Hot Roast Beef
- Ástarbollur
- Vínaterta
- Pönnukökur
- Berries
- Skyr
- Tea and Coffee

TICKETS: \$25 members, \$30 guests, half price for children 12 and under

FOR TICKETS PHONE: Tom Benjamin
250.475.2824, Virginia Guenther 250.655.4864 or
Vorna Butler 250.721.3299

PRESOLD TICKETS ONLY - No tickets sold at the door

DOORS OPEN 5 pm - DINNER 6 pm

Almanak 2009

March 7	Thorablót	6 pm
April 26	Movie/Social	2 pm
Sept 25	AGM	5 pm
Oct 25	Movie/Social	2 pm
Dec 6	Christmas Party	1 pm

Membership

Beverly Dondale reminds us that memberships are due. Benefits of membership are: \$25 dollar Thorablót tickets (non-members \$30) Free admission to Icelandic events Newsletter and mailings. Email notices

Solarkaffi Details from Trish Baer

On January 14th, I received this email from a friend in Iceland:

“Yesterday, we here in Akureyri, saw the full sun for the first time since before Christmas. It was a beautiful, clear day with lots of frost and here in the north it is always such an important day and carries with it a promise of the days becoming longer, slowly but surely. It is a time of new beginnings. The light is an important source, telling us what lies ahead...it is also a day to bake pancakes and waffles and celebrate.”

I wanted to know more about this special Icelandic occasion so I looked in Arni Björnsson's book "High Days and Holidays in Iceland" and found the answer on page 87. It turns out that Solarkaffi (Sun Coffee) is celebrated on different days in different parts of the country depending on the date of the sun's reappearance over the mountains which depends of course on local topography. In Ísafjörður it often occurs on January 25th but in Arnarfjörður it occurs around February 2nd. Arni says that people who have migrated to Reykjavik continue to get together to drink sun coffee on the day that is relevant to their original community.

Nordic Art and Photography Show and Sale,

February 28th “ March 1st, 11:00 a.m.“ to 4:00p.m.
Scandinavian Community Centre, 6540 Thomas Street, Burnaby.

We welcome mounted two and three dimensional art and photographs by artists of Nordic heritage or theme. Not for sale items are also accepted in our non-juried show. Each artist may hang up to four framed works for a hanging fee of \$6 each, and in addition, up to six unframed matted works for table display for a fee of \$3 each. Sold works may be replaced free.

Table rental is \$25 for unlimited two or three dimensional work. The Scandinavian Cultural Society retains 25% commission on sales and sells on average 10% of the overall value of the displayed works.

An artist’s reception, attended by 100 dignitaries and guests, occurs Saturday, February 28th with opening remarks, introduction of featured artists, a folk-orchestra concert, and free coffee and snacks. This year we are featuring James Koll, Burnaby water colourist, and Kalevi Sissonen, Vancouver photographer. Both of these professional artists will have exceptional work for display and sale and will be available at our reception and throughout most of the show for consultation.

Lunch with a Scandinavian flavour may be purchased Saturday. Coffee and snacks are available throughout the show. Come and see how a Nordic heritage finds expression in modern Canadian work. Support our artists with your purchases.

Register by February 15, 2009. Application forms are available from:

info@scandinaviancentre.org or
www.scandinaviancentre.org or 604-294-2777

Genealogy Night

There was a small turnout for genealogy night but those of us who did turn out had a good time and learned a little more about our ancestors. Even if you aren’t interested that much in genealogy come anyway as the coffee is good and so is the company. It’s a chance to get together and visit. The Club is very fortunate to have Fred Bjarnason as a willing resource person for anyone wanting to do research on their ancestors.

Beck Trust heads up

Bjarki Sveinbjörnsson is coming at the end of March but we still don’t have exact titles and exact dates yet. Bjarki is a musicologist and will be talking about: the history of Icelandic music, folksongs, rimur, and a music database that he is creating.

The Club’s Library

Did you know that the Club has a library? In 2008, the library moved to the home of Runa and Vince Pleshak in Metchosin. New shelves were built to house the books and papers and three board members worked on organizing the collection. There are a number of volumes in Icelandic and many others in English including books about Iceland and books by both Icelanders and Western Icelanders. The collection still requires cataloguing. If you have expertise in that area or wish to either donate or borrow a book please contact Runa at 478-4778.

Board of Directors, Icelanders of Victoria

Tom Benjamin	President	250.475.2824
Beverley Dondale	Vice President & Membership	250.475.2824
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Runa Pleshak	Member at large	250.478.4778
Vorna Butler	Member at large	250.721.3299

<http://www.victoria.tc.ca/Community/Icelanders> (case sensitive).

