

May
2012

new GEYSIR

The Icelandic Club of Greater Seattle



President's Tea honoring Past *Fjallkonur* and Princesses

Celebrate Your Inner Viking



38th Annual

Ballard Seafoodfest Saturday and Sunday July 14 & 15, 2012

2208 NW Market Street, Seattle WA 98107

www.seafoodfest.org

Heritage
NordicMuseum
Share the Nordic Spirit!

VIKING DAYS

AT THE NORDIC HERITAGE MUSEUM

AUGUST 18-19, 2012

3014 NW 67th Street Seattle, WA 98117
206.789.5707 • nordicmuseum.org

The New Geysir

May 2012

www.icelandseattle.com

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Address changes can be sent to:

Membership Secretary c/o ICGS
PO Box 70102, Seattle WA 98127

Last date for submissions to next issue is Saturday, August 18, 2012

Please note our publishing team are volunteers and can not devote regular office hours to this effort.

Therefore we need information well in advance to put all the pieces together and coordinate our final publication.

Please email: newgeysir@icelandseattle.com

New Geysir ~ May 2012



Photo of Thorri food buffet by Jeff Gerber

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UPCOMING EVENTS — MARK YOUR CALENDARS !

Follow us on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com: Icelandic-Club-of-Greater Seattle](http://www.Facebook.com:Icelandic-Club-of-Greater-Seattle)

Icelandic Coffee Hour
on
Tuesday mornings
at 10AM
at the
Nordic Heritage
Museum



June 6 to August 28	Icelandic Sculpture and Photo Exhibit at Nordic Heritage Museum
June 17	Save the date for Icelandic Independence Celebration 3PM until 6PM at Leif Erikson Hall in Ballard (see more info on back page)
June 21	Icelandic jazz pianist Sunna Gunnlaugs and trio at Tula's Restaurant and Nightclub 7:30PM Tula's is an all-ages venue until 10PM. www.tulas.com
August 12	Icelandic Club Annual Picnic at O.O. Denny Park (see more info page 10)
August 18 & 19	Viking Days, at the Nordic Heritage Museum 3014 NW 67th St, Seattle. We'll have a booth selling Icelandic goodies. Prepare your specialty, then join us at the museum. More info: www.nordicmuseum.org
September 16	Annual Golf Tournament at Jackson Park Golf Course
October 10	Celebrate Leifur Eiriksson Day at Leif Erikson Hall. 6PM ~ more info later on the website.
December 15	Annual Jólabbal Children's Christmas Party at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



This has been an exciting first half of the year as your Club President.

We started a new event this year - The President's Tea

I was hoping we might get about 25 people or so, to come in to Ballard and celebrate and honor our past *Fjallkonur* and Princesses...we had 50 people there! Princess Stefania and our current *Fjallkona*, Alene Moris and our first *Fjallkona*, Lois Keller, who made some delicious *vinarterta* were all in attendance.

I think the most exciting development to have happened so far is that the Seattle Icelandic Club will be hosting the Icelandic National League of North America (INL) annual convention next year! The INL has had 93 conventions and the 94th convention in 2013 will be held here in Seattle for the first time, by our Club.

We have a strong committee working on the details and we



3 generations: Amma Kathryn Chester with future princess baby Genevieve and former princess (1995) Sarah Chester Joplin

will be in need of more people to help and contribute towards this large undertaking. This will include ideas, hands on work, procuring donation items and sponsors! Maybe you or your company would be able to sponsor an event, a luncheon/dinner, speaker/artist or a tour of Seattle.

I know there are some people who wonder why this is important for us to do as a Club and right now we have some very energetic people, who feel this is a worthwhile adventure and is very important to our Icelandic culture and heritage. Why is it important you ask? Going to Manitoba, you will find



The food was beautifully presented and scrumptiously delicious.



*Former and Future Princesses:
1993 Princess
Cheryl Porter Manning
with daughter Julie.*

3rd and 4th generation Canadian Icelanders, who speak fluent Icelandic! Many of them have never even been to Iceland, or if they have, it has only been once or twice, yet they are keeping their culture alive and well.

It's hard work, many of us here in Seattle aren't so removed from Iceland and their relatives, yet they know little about Iceland. Being Icelandic has become more of a novelty, or an answer on Jeopardy, than an actual part of our personal history.

I invite all of you reading this message to do something... get involved, and get your kids and grandkids involved. Our June 17th Independence Day celebration this year falls on Father's Day, what a better way to celebrate, than by bringing



(Left - right) 1997 Princesses Brynja Blenckers-Leroy and Heddy Barber, 1982 Princesses Loa Barber and Jonina Gudjonsson, and 1998 Princess Desiree Blenckers-Adams.

dad to the Leifur Erikson Hall in Ballard and enjoying a cold Dad's Root Beer float. We have recently mailed postcards announcing this event and more information can be found on the back cover of this newsletter. Back by popular demand, this year our annual picnic will include swimming, boating, gunny sack races, water balloons, potluck salads and of course... Icelandic Hot Dogs!

Please plan to join us at O.O. Denny Park, at the NorthEast end of Lake Washington from 12 – 4pm on Sunday, August 12th.

Don't be a stranger, come and enjoy some or all of our activities, I know we all live very busy lives, but trust me...your kids and grandkids will thank you for it.

*Bless Bless,
Sonna Somerville-Ghilarducci*



Membership Secretary Linda Russo with our first Fjallkona Lois Keller.

2012 Þorrrablót

by Emily Kristjaanson

Another successful *Þorrrablót* was held on Saturday, February 25, 2012 at Seattle's Nordic Heritage Museum in Ballard.

Margrét Solvadottir, Chairperson of the *Þorrrablót* committee, welcomed guests and said that this *Þorrrablót* would be an old fashioned one with eating, drinking, singing and dancing as it is done in Iceland.

Sigga Kling, our Icelandic MC, kept the audience's attention with her entertaining style and magic stones!

Our new ICGS President, Sonna Ghilarducci, brought greetings from the club and the INL. David Johnson, our club Secretary, introduced guests from Iceland, Asta Sol Kristjansdottir, Program Director of the Snorri Program and Asdis Eva Hannesdottir, Director and CEO of the Nordic Association of Iceland.

Our singer-entertainer, Gudjon Stefansson, was wonderful. He was easy to listen to and sang songs that all of the crowd could relate to. Later in the evening, he teamed up with our dance musician, Larus Grimsson, for an evening of great music for singing and dancing.

The raffle items (donated by Judy Ohai, Tota Sellars & Emily Kristjanson) plus three tickets to Iceland donated by Icelandair were a big hit. Eight happy people were recipients of these. Our lovely princesses, Stefanie Ghilarducci, Jenny Bjarnason and Margo Einarsson did a wonderful job of selling raffle tickets.

The Chef, Steinar Thor Thorfinnson, did an outstanding job of preparing and serving the food. He brought the Icelandic food with him. Also, we had a table of foods suitable for those who are vegetarian and others who did not want to partake in the Icelandic food! Thank you to Haukur Hauksson for his able cooking skills in the kitchen, as well as, Halldora Solvadottir and Vidar Sveinbjornsson.

The wonderful desserts were made by: *kleiner* - Tota Sellars & Maria Cray; *pönnukökur*: Gusti Helgason and Margret's sister from Iceland, Halldora Solvadottir. Of course, the *Skyr* was brought along from Iceland and some wonderful ingredients were added by the Chef.

A bottle of Glacial water was provided for every guest, compliments of the company. Also, Einstok beer, the first of its kind, was donated by Bernard La Borie from



Chef Steinar



Canada Ole and Ted Beck



Director and CEO of the Nordic Association of Iceland Asdis Eva Hannesdottir (l), Seattle's Nordic Heritage Museum Director Eric Nelson, and Director of the Snorri Program Asta Sol Kristjansdottir.

California. Henry Bjornsson and friend drove down to pick it up. A BIG thank you to Henry.

Our cheerful and efficient bartenders, Karen and Irene, kept the people happy. Their beautiful smiles welcomed everyone!

The *Þorraprælar*, the young men and women that are Icelandic students of Margret Solvadottir were SO helpful with setting up the tables and chairs, serving, doing what ever was needed AND CLEAN-UP. We could not have done all of that without their help. They were fantastic!

An outstanding job by the Committee headed by Margret Solvadottir. She “went to Viking” and spent many hours talking to the participants while in Iceland and many hours on the phone seeking help here in Seattle. Her committee members consisting of Tota Sellars, Judy Ohai, Henry Bjornsson and Emily Kristjanson supported her efforts.

AND BIG THANKYOU TO MARGRET SOLVADOTTIR AND COMMITTEE!!!!



MC Sigga Kling with Margrét Solvadottir, Chairperson of the Þorrablót committee.



2012 Fjallkona Alene Moris



The traditional pouring of Brennivin ~ for medicinal purposes, of course!



Rosa and Gunnar Johannesson



Our cheerful and efficient bartenders Karen and Irene kept the people in “good spirits”.

Guttormsson Family Foundation announces 2012 Snorri Scholarships

The Guttormsson Family Foundation announced the winners of their 2012 Annual Snorri Scholarships

by Lögberg-Heimskringla on Saturday, March 10, 2012

The Guttormsson Family Foundation has announced the winners of their 2012 Annual Snorri Scholarships. Julie Sommers of Lopez Island, WA, and Amanda Allen of Seattle, WA, are the winners of \$2000 each toward their costs with the Snorri Program this summer. Julie is a 23 year old, summa cum laude graduate from Corban College. She has been working an AmeriCorps position at the Lopez Island Family Resource Center, most recently as a part time employee. Her Icelandic heritage stems from her maternal Afi, Oscar Westford who grew up on a farm in North Dakota. His parents were Helga Benson from Seydisfirdi and Sveinn Westford from Bardarstrandarsysla. Julie and her siblings have been "proudly aware of their Icelandic roots." She has pored over notebooks of family history, "following twisting branches of the family tree back hundreds of years." Sounds like she has the "old peoples disease"-GENEALOGY. Julie has been dreaming of traveling to Iceland all her life and "now has the opportunity to experience her heritage in a full and authentic way."

Amanda Allen is a 28 year old photographer, videographer from Seattle. She hopes that by visiting Iceland that she can enrich her knowledge and connection with a family heritage only heard about

in stories and imagined since she was a child. Growing up the only tangible kinship she had to her Icelandic ancestors was through Christmas stories from her Grandparents and Aunts, attending the Free Unitarian Church in Blaine, WA that was founded by Icelandic settlers in 1929, and through making a traditional Vinaterta cake every holiday season with her Mom. She hopes that the beautiful surreal nature of Iceland's icy and volcanic landscape will help her expand her Photographic portfolio, and documentary travel videos. She also hopes to gain experience and better knowledge of farming practices and techniques, and food cultivation and the rich Culinary heritage of Iceland. Her family lineage is pretty diverse, but she has always felt most akin and interested in her Icelandic heritage. When she found out about the

Snorri Foundation opportunity it was only 5 days before the application was due, she was not financially prepared for taking a trip of this nature so soon but decided she must take the chance and apply as this is only available to people 21-28 years of age and she would be turning 29 this coming year.

The GFF funding this year was obtained from Dr. Steve and Rosemary Guttormsson, Bishop Stefan T. Guttormsson, Paul Guttormsson Esq., Harvey Thorleifson PhD Univ. of Minn., and Jeff and Pam Furstenau. We thank you all for your continued support of this unique program. There is no other country that reaches out to their "diaspora" like the Icelanders. We should all be proud to be Icelanders.

More info: www.snorri.is:



*Ástkær eiginmaður, faðir, sonur
og bróðir okkar,*

Helgi Yngvason
flugmaður,

lést 16. janúar sl. á heimili sínu í Seattle,
Bandaríkjunum.

The Icelandic Club of Greater Seattle
2012 Scholarship Application
Icelandic Club Membership Required
Open to High School Seniors with Icelandic Heritage

Name: _____
Address: _____

Home phone, cellphone, email: _____

Parent who is a member: _____

Icelandic Heritage: _____

High School Attended: _____

Grade Point Average: _____

Honors: _____

Community College or University Intended: _____

(Scholarship will be sent directly to the College or University)

Educational Goals: _____

(Briefly describe and if more space is needed use a second page)

Work Experience: _____

(Briefly describe and if more space is needed use a second page)

Extracurricular Activities and Hobbies: _____

(Any extra information the applicant may choose to include - i.e., letters of reference, etc.)

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____
Signature of Legal Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Please print and mail the application to:	The Icelandic Club of Greater Seattle Attn: Scholarship Committee PO Box 70102 Seattle, WA 98127
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Annual Picnic of The Icelandic Club of Greater Seattle



Summer Picnic, Sunday, August 12th
12:00 Noon - 4:00 pm

O.O. Denny Park, 12032 Holmes Point Dr NE,
Kirkland, WA

BBQ, swimming, boating, games, Icelandic hot dogs -
plenty of activities to keep even the teenagers happy!



SAVE the Date!

The Annual Golf Tournament,
Sunday, September 16th, Time to be announced
at Jackson Park Golf Course
1000 NE 135th Street, Seattle, 98125
Sign-up in August for lots of fun and
to support the Club's scholarship fund

The Icelandic Club of Greater Seattle

2012 Membership
(Valid Jan. 1, 2012 – Dec. 31, 2012)

Join us this year as the Club continues to grow and expands our events with member participation. *You will make a difference by getting involved!*

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Street: _____

City, State, Zip code: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

Email address: _____

- Individual membership (I12): **\$35.00**
- Individual Senior (65 or older) membership (S12): **\$20.00**
- Senior Couple (both 65 & older) (SC12): **\$30.00**
- Family membership (F12): **\$45.00**
(all family members must reside at the same address, children must be under 21 years of age)
- Student membership (St12): **\$20.00**

Please consider a donation to support club activities.

Scholarship Donation: \$ _____ Club Donation: \$ _____

Send this application and a check payable to the Icelandic Club to:

The Icelandic Club of Greater Seattle
ATTN: Membership
P.O. Box 70102
Seattle, WA 98127-0102

Please check any areas where you can help:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thorrablot | <input type="checkbox"/> Sumardagurinn Fyrsti | <input type="checkbox"/> May 17 th Parade |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 17 th of June | <input type="checkbox"/> Viking Days | <input type="checkbox"/> Summer Picnic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golf Tournament | <input type="checkbox"/> Jolaball | <input type="checkbox"/> Provide food for events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help with Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Help with Website | |

Questions/Comments/Suggestions: Call 206-963-2016.

The Icelandic Club of Greater Seattle
P. O. Box 70102
Seattle, WA 98127

Return Service Requested

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Icelandic Independence Day

Sunday, June 17, 2012

Join the festivities at



Leif Erikson Hall in Ballard at
2245 NW 57th Street, Seattle, WA 98107
Doors open 3PM; Short program at 3:30PM;
Fun 'til 6PM

Food, Dad's brand root beer floats (in honor of it also being Father's Day!), remarks from your *Fjallkona* and Icelandic Princesses, presentation of scholarship awards, sing-along, and auction.

Suggested fee: \$10/person or \$25/family of four