

Scandinavian Chatter

Scandinavian Club

March, 2012

Sun Lakes, AZ

Find out more about our club at:
www.scandiclub.org



A Message from President Jerry

It is almost time to say goodbye to this year's programs and activities for the Scandinavian Club. It has been a fun year, and I hope you have enjoyed it as much as I have. In review, in November, we had an excellent time with our foreign exchange students, and our travel log of the five Scandinavian Cities. Then in December, we had our Christmas programs with carol singing, Santa Lucia program, our cellist and musical entertainment from the Awe! Cappellas. Our January meeting featured a personal travel log of a trip to Norway by Loree & Howard Baumgart. Then February found us celebrating our heritage month with a fun filled evening of entertainment by pianist "Crazy Fingers Lindquist". In March, we will be entertained by a Scandinavian Dance group from Mesa, who will demonstrate some old dance routines. But they have also promised they will save some time in their routine to get some of us brave souls out on the dance floor to do some old time circle dances. So March promises to be a continuation of some great times at your Scandinavian Club! Also, we should not forget the great food we have all shared, and we thank the cooks for their great contributions of a whole variety of great ethnic Scandinavian foods.

It has been my honor and privilege to serve as your President this past year. I want to thank the Officers, Directors and Committees for their cooperation, dedication and hard work to make this a very successful year at our Scandinavian Club. We have 117 members!! But each spring brings new growth and a new beginning. And so it is with our Scandinavian Club, as new Officers, Directors and Committees assume new positions for the ensuing year.

I hope to see all of you at the March 18th meeting!!

President Jerry

SCANDINAVIAN CLUB WEBSITE

WWW.SCANDICLUB.ORG

IT IS NEW AND STILL IN FORMATIVE STAGE

It was time to get the feet stomping at the February meeting. As we had anticipated, Gordon Lindquist gave us a rousing rendition of many of our favorite tunes. He also performed some of his magic on the keys in some very unusual ways.



There were some wonderful artifacts that members shared with us at the meeting in March.

We continue with what we hope is a recurring feature. Had it not been for those who risked so much, we would not be here today. Would you please share the story of your heritage with us? And not just stories, but also photos. For more information, contact Lyle Replogle at 480-818-1718, or send E-mail to “mail@scandiclub.org”. Our thanks to Darlene Knipping for sharing her heritage.

Heritage of Darlene Knipping

I was born and raised on a farm near a very small town in Nebraska. Hardy is near the Kansas border about 35 miles south of Grand Island. Almost everyone living in Hardy was Danish. Consequently, I was raised on Danish food. I never had spaghetti till I was married and I couldn't handle that!

We raised all of our own food on the farm. We had our own "smoke house" where we kept enough food in case of a cyclone. They weren't nearly as devastating as tornadoes. We had a natural spring with a shed built over it. This was a good place to float our watermelon and cantaloupe from our garden. We churned our own butter; put it in fruit jars so it could keep cool, floating on the spring water.

My mother's parents lived in another Danish community nearby called Rushin. They and our aunts and uncles would come to visit on Sunday afternoons. I learned to understand Danish from listening to them.

My father and his parents came from a farm near Copenhagen. I did an oil-painting of their home. It was "U" shaped and the animals lived in each end to keep warm. My grand parents came to America after all their children migrated over here. Some settled in Michigan and some in Nebraska.

My grandfather, Lars Mortensen and his wife went back to Denmark to see if he could still make a living over there. His wife eventually came back to be near their children. He planned to come later but before long he wasn't well enough to travel that far. When he was 104 the Copenhagen newspaper interviewed him and asked what he attributed his longevity to. His reply was "the American Cigars". His children were sending him "White Owl Cigars".

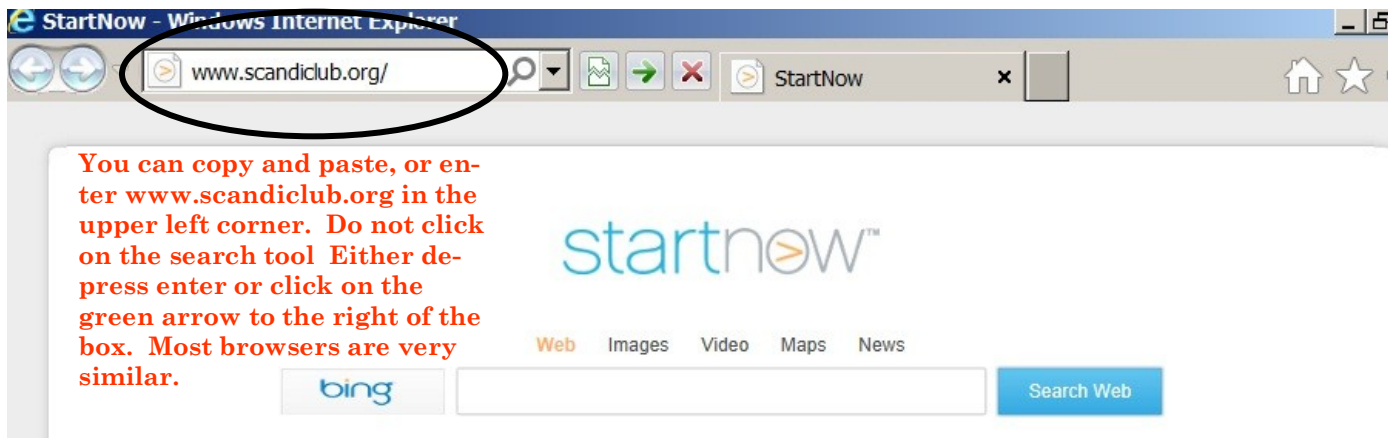
My mother lived to be 102 1/2. I believe Scandinavians have a history of longevity! I am proud to be Danish. Our friends who were in the service tell us that Denmark was the friendliest of all the countries. They seat you with people you don't know in the restaurants and they invite you to their homes to see how they live.

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR WEB SITE AT THE MARCH MEETING

Go to www.scandiclub.org for more photos of our February meeting.

Here are some views of the Scandinavian Club web site.

Start by entering www.scandiclub.org into your browser. If you use Internet Explorer it will look something like this:



You can copy and paste, or enter www.scandiclub.org in the upper left corner. Do not click on the search tool. Either depress enter or click on the green arrow to the right of the box. Most browsers are very similar.

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Scandinavian Club of Southeast Valley

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Home

Many of our Grandparents or Great Grandparents came from Europe during the large migration of immigrants from

To find out more about our Scandinavian Club simply click on "Contact Us" from the selection of pages on the left. Then fill in your

Here is a screen shot of some pages showing what you would see if you go to www.scandiclub.org!

When in the site, you can select pages from the menu on the left side of the page.

It is hoped that through member participation we will be able to add content. Would you share your Scandinavian heritage story and photos with us?

In Member Profiles we might find out where our members go in the summer, or how many Norwegians,



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Officers and Committees

Here are the Scandinavian Club of Southeast Valley Officers for the 2011/2012 year.



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Our Heritage

We look forward to having information from our Scandinavian club of Southeast Valley members regarding their heritage. What is the story behind your Scandinavian heritage? Can you share some information about your

Swedes, Danes, Fins or Icelanders we have in the club. Watch for some opportunities on the web site to provide information of interest to members of the club.

In addition to the web site there now is a Club E-mail address: