

Friends of the Karl Oskar House

News about our mission of: Preserve, Share and Celebrate Swedish Immigration and Culture

29101 Glader Blvd., Lindstrom, MN. USA

April/May 2023



Picture above is the Nya Duvemåla Folkmusiklag playing during FIKA at the annual meeting.

Great turnout for the Friends of the Karl Oskar House Annual Meeting on April 15th.

Professor Roger McKnight's talk "Vilhelm Moberg and Me. What the Swede taught me about Minnesota" was enjoyed by all in attendance. We are so grateful to Dr McKnight and his wife, Barbara, for the time they spent with us. Former students of his at Gustavus Corliss Vadner and Brian McNally, local Scandinavian studies teacher at CLHS enjoyed reconnecting.



McKnight, professor emeritus in Scandinavian studies at Gustavus Adolphus College in St Peter, has written extensively about Swedish novelist Vilhelm Moberg and Swedish-American social history and literature. He shared stories of his time as a Fulbright scholar in Sweden in the 70's, insight into Moberg's life and research as well the parallels in his and Moberg's lives. Thank you to Jack Doepke who filmed the presentation. It will be shown on local television Channel 10 & 20 as well as available on our website. Friendsofthekarloskarhouse.org

Visit from Södra Vätterbygdens Folkhögskola



The Vättern College Choir from Jönköping, Sweden, gave a wonderful impromptu performance of Stephen Paulus' "Pilgrims' Hymn" at Chisago Lake Lutheran Church while touring the Chisago Lakes area on Monday, April 17th.



After a stop at the Karl Oskar House, the choir visited the Moberg statue in Chisago City's Moberg Park where they all posed for this photo, along with local tour guides: Marilyn Wahlstrom (seated in front middle), Sven Sjöstedt and Gary Noren (standing at the right).



Corliss and Pam greeted and worked at the registration table.

PRATSTUND



Sven Sjöstedt is continuing to host the **Pratstund Zoom Swedish speaking** conversations on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7pm. Anyone wanting to chat in Swedish is welcome. Pictured is Sven & Barb Hughes from Mankato who met for the first time at the annual meeting after ZOOMING for two years. Join the conversation and make new friends. Meeting ID: 815 2431 9160 Password: NWW2021



Summer music programming will begin and end with the Nordic Music Jam under the Astrakhan Tree on Sunday, June 4th and Sunday, September 24th from 1:30-3:30pm. All musicians are invited to bring an instrument and join in the fun of performing Nordic music.

SaxenTours Farm Visit

Our friends Crister and Maria from Saxen Tours in Sweden visited twice recently. On March 21st the farm group visited the John (Jay) Peterson Spring Creek Farm near Almelund. The group enjoyed learning about local farming practices.



On March 23rd the group returned, and we hosted FIKA at the Karl Oskar House before heading to the Karl Oskar & Kristina statue for a picture. The snowbanks were a challenge at the Karl Oskar House and the statue. Saxen Tours will return on July 5th for a tour and FIKA at the Karl Oskar House and be here for the Saturday Karl Oskar events.



UPCOMING DATES:

Monday, May 8th 10am Spring Cleaning

Join the gang to prep for summer. Wear your grubby clothes!

Sunday, May 21st Opening 1-4pm _____

Sunday, May 28th 1-4pm Cheryl & Carla

Sunday, June 4th **Nordic Music Jam under the Astrakhan**

Corliss & _____

Sunday, June 11 KUBB with Boni Stockel 1:30-2:30pm

Janet T & _____

Sunday, June 18th **Longtine and Platt** _____

Sunday, June 25 **Tjärnblom** _____

Sunday, July 2nd KUBB with Craig & Boni

Wednesday, July 5th Saxen Tours at the Karl Oskar House 10am

Carla & _____

Saturday July 8th Karl Oskar Days –**Värsk/Carolyn Spargo**

11am-2pm Carla, _____

2pm-4pm _____

Sunday, July 9th Karl Oskar Days- **Nya Duvemåla Folkmusiklag**

Noon-2 Janet, _____

2-4pm Carla, Corliss, _____

Sunday, July 16th 1-4pm _____

Sunday, July 23rd **Twin Cities Nyckelharpalag** _____

Sunday, July 30th 1-4pm _____

Sunday, August 6th KUBB with Craig & Boni _____

Sunday, August 13th **Twin Cities Hardingfelelag** _____

Sunday, August 20th 1-4pm _____

Sunday, August 27th **Kristi & Tom Sullivan** Janet & Corliss

Sunday, September 3rd 1-4pm _____

Continued next page.

East Central Regional Arts Council Grant Update

As announced in our last newsletter, we received notice on February 28th that a grant we wrote in January has been approved for the Friends of the Karl Oskar House. The grant will allow us to build and install a kiosk near the entrance of the Karl Oskar House to allow visitors to learn about the history when the house is not attended. An artist will be engaged to create a mural depicting Karl Oskar and Kristina on the shed wall and the funds will go towards our summer musical programming. Additionally new chairs will be purchased for concerts and inside use. We are very grateful for the opportunity to enhance our visitors' experience. Planning is underway for the May 15th grant cycle. Below is the logo and statement that will be included in all our activities related to the grant.



- *This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the East Central Regional Arts Council thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.*

Thanks to all who made donations or paid annual dues at the April meeting. (Individual \$20 & \$30 family). PayPal may be used at any time for any donation.

FriendsofKarlOskarHouse@gmail.com

PO BOX 12 Lindstrom, MN. 55045

Sunday, September 10th **Laula Aika** _____

Sunday, September 17th 1-4pm _____

Sunday, September 24th **Nordic Folk Music Jam**
Corliss, _____

We need at least two people on all Sundays.

Email neilcar@frontier.com to sign up for your preferred dates.

Tack så mycket



Thank you to Marilyn Wahlstrom who has been busy working with the musicians for the summer concert dates. Our color brochure for all concerts and activities will be published mid-May.



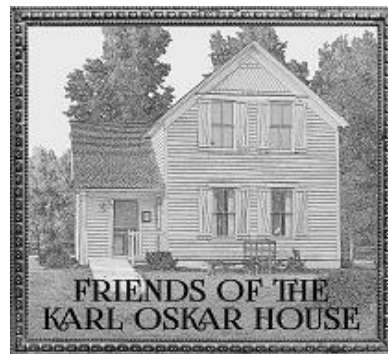
*Chisago County
Historical Society*

Plan to visit the Chisago County Historical Society in downtown Lindstrom soon. A new exhibit is ready for viewing: "High School Years". The exhibit is a look back at the six high schools in Chisago County from the 1900's-1992: Chi Hi, Chisago City, Chisago Lakes, North Branch, Rush City and Taylors Falls.

Board of Directors: President Carla Norelius, VP: Gary Noren, Treasurer: Pam Deimel, Secretary: Marilyn Wahlstrom, Corliss Vadner, Sven Sjöstedt, Ian Dudley, Arild & Betty Hagberg, Chuck Gramling

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For more photos of all the events, check our Facebook page. Friends of the Karl Oskar House

Please contact Carla Norelius with questions regarding this newsletter @ neilcar@frontier.com