

Friends of the Karl Oskar House/Nya Duvemåla

July/August 2025



Ki Chi Saga Park, 29061 Glader Blvd,
Lindström, Minnesota

**Preserve, Share and Celebrate Swedish
Immigration and Culture**

Coming Events in August

Every Sunday in August 1-4pm. Museum open and fika. Free will offering.

Sunday August 3, 1-2pm Kubb – Swedish lawn game.

Sunday August 17, 1-2pm Kubb – Swedish lawn game. 2–3 pm American Swedish Institute Male Chorus entertains.

Sunday August 24 2-3 pm Twin Cities Scandijam trio entertains.

Sunday August 31 1-2pm Kubb – Swedish lawn game.

Word from the president

We have a wonderful volunteer team working for you at the Karl Oskar House. If you are interested in helping, please contact the following members:



Volunteering? Contact Corliss Vadner, churchlady12@aol.com

- Website development? Contact Carla Norelius, neilcar@frontier.com
- Scandinavian music or dance? Contact Marilyn Wahlstrom, mjwahls@msn.com
- Newsletter ideas? Contact Sven Sjöstedt, SvenDaSvede@aol.com
- Purchasing a memorial brick? Contact Peter Osterberg, petermilo8@aol.com
- Making a donation? Contact Pam Deimel, pdeimel@hotmail.com
- Other ideas? Contact Gary Noren, garynoren@gmail.com or Becky Dudley ibdudsmn@yahoo.com or Pete Lindberg plindberg@surfnetusa.com or Chuck Gramling chazmg1@citlink.net or Peggy Kamish-Eral kamish565@gmail.com or Bonnie Anderson brinkanderson@gmail.com



Folk music under the Astrakhan apple tree

Bricks/Pavers



The Friends of the Karl Oskar House (FOKOH) are moving ahead with a plan to install a paved path at the Karl Oskar House historic site and the public is invited to help make this project happen.

There are be two sizes of brick pavers available to purchase. One is four by eight and one is eight by eight inches. The smaller one will include three lines of 18 characters and the larger brick six lines of 18 characters— for a message or names/dates of descendants or any text you order that fits.

The group is partnering with the fundraising organization "That's My Brick" to have the pavers produced and delivered. Small pavers are \$100 and the bigger size is \$200. You can order on line at thatsmybrick.com/karloskar. The bricks can also be ordered by mail, send checks to FOKOH P.O. Box 12 Lindstrom, MN 55045-0012. Include what you want as characters for your text.

Astrakhan Apple Tree

In the book "The Settlers" the Swedish author Vilhelm Moberg wrote "In order to please Kristina, Karl Oskar had named his new home Nya Duvemåla, and had written to his wife's home for apple seed and had planted an Astrakhan apple tree for her: this was his remedy for her homesickness. "

When Kristina was dying, Karl Oskar gave her the first ripe apple from the tree. She was too weak to eat it. "Suddenly the mouth grew stiff, the lower jaw stopped in an attempted motion. The eyelids twitched and the whites became enlarged. Her breath was drawn out while the voice grew even weaker. - I recognize it...our Astrakhans are ripe...- Then there came only a soft sigh as she breathed out: - Our apples are ripe. I am home..."

Thus there is an Astrakhan apple tree at the Karl Oskar House.



A word from your editor.

My name is Sven Sjöstedt, sometimes Karl Oskar Nilsson. I was born in Sweden 1945 and emigrated to the US 1983. I have always been interested in Swedish immigrant history and culture and during the years been active in many Swedish/American organizations. In addition have I always been a reader and writer. But being born even before we had a telephone at home, todays IT technology is a challenge. So bear with me and we will have some fun together.

What happened in June and July?

June 1 Nordic Music Jam

Very nice music by a group of folk musicians. Great afternoon of fellowship, music and fika. Life as it is at it's best.



June 8 Cloudberryes

Cloudberryes entertained. The Cloudberryes are the American Swedish Institute's Women's Chorus. A choir with the purpose of preserving, promoting, encouraging and sharing Swedish music.



June 9 Pratstund

The second Monday in each month we meet on Zoom to speak Swedish. Pratstund i svenskbygderna klockan 19 till 20. (Minnesota tid). Zoom mötesdetaljer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81524319160...>

Meeting ID: 815 2431 9160

Passcode: NWW2021

Vi ses och hörs.



June 15 Sami and sheep herding.

Visitors from the Sami Center of North America informed about their culture and display some artifacts of their culture. They even presented yoiking. The Sami are the traditionally Sami-speaking indigenous people inhabiting the region of Sapmi, which today encompasses large northern parts of Norway, Sweden, Finland, and off the Kola Peninsula in Russia. Traditionally, the Sami have pursued a variety of livelihoods, including



June 21, City of Lindström. Välkommen Ånga

Lindstrom Midsommar celebrating the steam launch in the water tower. Our Karl Oskar band performed by Glädje on the lawn. Mural dedication



June 22 Midsummer, Tjärnblom. Tjärnblom, Swedish for "woodland lake flower", is a Scandinavian-style string band featuring a beautiful blend of Nyckelharpa, Octave Mandolin, Harmonium and Cello. They travel a modern "Snoose Boulevard Highway" in a musical journey, and play a repertoire of both old and new Swedish, Finnish, and Minnesota tunes for dancing and for listening.



July 6 Kubb and fika



July 12 Karl Oskar Days, Nya Duvemåla Folkmusiklag, Opened already at 10 AM,

Nya Duvemåla Folkmusiklag was formed in 2021 by a group of musicians who love to play music, especially Swedish folk music. They want to share this beautiful music and keep the traditions alive. The group consists of violin, nyckelharpa, mandolin, guitar, accordion, cello and bass violin. They are also known as the "Karl Oskar House Band."

We had around 50 visitors during the day.

In the parade in the evening "Karl Oskar and Kristina (Karl and Chris Ruser) rode in the Friends of the Karl Oskar House convertible.



July 13 Karl Oskar Days, Twin Cities Hardangerfelelag.

Twin Cities Hardingfelelag (Hardanger Fiddle Group) is dedicated to the performance of traditional hardanger fiddle music. The group provides dance music at Scandinavian events around the Twin Cities and in outstate MN. The hardanger fiddle is the national folk instrument of Norway. It is ornately decorated with pen and ink designs called rosing and inlaid mother-of-pearl. The hardanger fiddle is like a violin, with an additional four or five sympathetic strings that run underneath the fingerboard. These add a unique droning sound when the top primary strings are bowed.

Even this day we had about 50 visitors.



July 20, Regular open house with Fika.

July 27, Tom Sullivan, Tom first played piano accordion for only one year at age 10 (way back in 1961)... then set the accordion aside for 35 years, picking it up only to discover that he never forgot how to play the magic, left hand button side. Since then he has played and sang old-time/country/bluegrass/rock/ folk and Celtic. Tom is formerly the guitar/vocal/ accordionist with Twin Cities Nyckelharpalag and is currently doing the same with the "Karl Oskar House Band" Nya Duvemåla. He is also Bodhran player, accordionist and vocalist for The Center for Irish Music's band An Luan.



For more information:

Web site - <https://friendsofthekarloskarhouse.org/>

Facebook - Friends of the Karl Oskar House.

E-mail - Communications Coordinator Sven Sjöstedt - svendasvede@aol.com