



Nordic News

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www.canadiannordicsociety.com

CNS 2013 Dates to Remember

January Movie

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

JAR CITY

Luncheon Dates

Monday, February 4, 2013

CNS EVENTS

January Movie Night

JAR CITY

Presentation of a Film from Iceland

Date and Time: Wednesday, January 23, 2013 at 7:30 pm

Location: Army Officers' Mess, 149 Somerset Street W., (off Elgin St.), Ottawa

One of the most noted mystery writers of the past twenty years is Arnaldur Indriadson, who has written some ten police procedurals situated in Iceland featuring Detective Erlendur. Mr. Indriadson was born in Reykjavik and graduated with a degree in history from the University of Iceland. He worked as a journalist for a number of years before turning to writing. He published his first book, Sons of Dust (Synir duftsins), in 1997, the first in the series of Detective Erlendur. The series includes ten novels as of 2010. Arnaldur's books have been published in twenty-six countries and have been translated into German, Greek, Danish, English, Italian, Czech, Swedish, Norwegian, Dutch, Finnish, Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese and French. What is especially unique about this series featuring an Icelandic detective is that each one of his novels, upon their being published in English, has been the subject of extensive book reviews in some of the most prominent periodicals in North America and Britain.

Arnaldur received the Glass Key award for best Nordic crime novel in 2002 and 2003. He won the Crime Writers' Association's Gold Dagger Award in 2005 for the novel Silence of the Grave (Grafarþönn). He lives in Reykjavík with his wife and three children.

Jar City (Mýrin, also known in English as Tainted Blood) is the third novel in the Detective Erlendur series and the first to have been filmed. Subtitled.

Refreshments

Lennard Sillanpää, President

CNS LUNCHEONS

The next luncheon will be held on Monday, February 4, 2013.

The luncheon dates for the remainder of the 2012-2013 session will be March 4, April 8, May 6 and June 3. No reservations required for these dates.

Thanks to Capt. Kathleen Tipton (CNS Councillor) for booking these luncheons for us.

Lennart Nylund, Vice President

OTHER CNS INFORMATION

November Speaker Report

Our Speaker in November was her Excellency Mona Elisabeth Brøther, Ambassador for Norway to Canada, who spoke on Norway's Foreign Policy: Punching above our Weight. Here is a picture of H.E. after receiving her Canadian Nordic Society mug from President Len Sillanpää.



Peter Macnaughton

Santa Lucia Celebration

The annual Santa Lucia Celebration was held on December 8, 2012 at St. Peter's Lutheran Church. The performance was held in the Sanctuary, providing an awesome ambiance for this ancient tradition. Afterwards, the crowd moved into the adjoining hall for socializing, refreshments, games and dancing around the Christmas tree. We would like to congratulate the choir director, Mats Lindeberg, the logistics person, Hedvig Lunderquist, and pianist Beth Young for their many hours devoted to rehearsals which resulted in a magical performance. We would

like to thank Pastor Dr. Barton Beglo and his secretary Carol, and his church volunteers for welcoming us and providing such valuable assistance: Hildegard Ehlebracht, the food coordinator in the kitchen, and Aggie Casselman the event coordinator. We must thank IKEA, and their public relations person, Chelsea Murray, for their generous donation of cookies and the door prize, an iconic Poang chair. The chair was won by Mr. Anders Carson.

We must acknowledge the valuable contributions by our own CNS members: Simon Snow, Bruce Enstone, Martti Lahtinen and son, Stella Ellis, and particularly the following members who were called in at the last minute to fill-in due to a cancellation by volunteers: Marianne Bournes and Michael and Marja Enright.

Thanks also to many people who brought goodies to share--- a Lucia tradition.



Photograph courtesy of Susana Chheng.

Lennart Nylund, Vice-President.

OTHER NORDIC EVENTS OR ITEMS OF INTEREST

Other items

Governor-General's Winter Celebration

Come join Governor General David Johnston and Mrs. Sharon Johnston for an afternoon of winter delights at Rideau Hall.

January 26, 2013 – 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Events include:

Ice skating

Dog sledding

Biathlon

Kick sledding excursions

Brandy

Horse-drawn sleigh

Residence tours

All activities are free of charge and will take place rain or shine at 1 Sussex Drive, Ottawa.

The Winter Celebration is presented in partnership with the Embassy of Finland, the Embassy of the Royal Kingdom of the Netherlands, The Royal Norwegian Embassy, the Embassy of Sweden and the National Capital commission.

Free off-site parking is available at the National Research Council, 100 Sussex Drive, a short walk away, and on neighbouring streets.

For more information: 1-866-842-4422, guide@gg.ca, www.gg.ca/visitus.

(Extracted from an advertisement in the Citizen, 2013-01-17)

Pat Sutherland, President of The Arctic Circle, makes news.

President Pat Sutherland of an affinity organization, the Arctic Circle, received a lot of press in November. There was an article in the Ottawa Citizen on November 21, 2012, Maclean's edition November 26, 2012, page 26, and the prestigious National Geographic, November 2012, page 84. A full program of CBC's Nature of Things was devoted to her on November 22, 2012. The news highlighted her work as an archeologist in the Canadian Arctic for the past dozen years. She has found evidence that the Vikings may have explored the north centuries before Columbus discovered America.

Lennart Nylund, Vice-President.

EDITOR'S SECTION

Saami National Day February 6, 2013

The word “tundra” is a loan word from the language Kilden Saami spoken by a small group of Saami¹ on the Kola Peninsula, coming via the Russian language. Saami people are also spread across the top of Europe from Norway through Sweden and Finland into Russia; the term Sápmi is the name of the cultural region traditionally inhabited by the Saami people. The Saami may have been the first people to settle northern Scandinavia, following the reindeer that moved north with the retreating glaciers 8000 to 10000 years ago². One book suggested that there were 3 major inflows of Saamis, one group occupying the coastal regions (Sea Saami) and dependent on ocean resources, an inland forest and mountain group dependent on reindeer for food (Mountain Saami), and an eastern group dependent on fresh water fishing (Eastern Saami?). Currently population estimates of the Saami vary between 80000 and 135000.



While there are nine Saami languages, generally largely unintelligible between each, these languages are part of the family of Uralic languages which have their roots in the vicinity of the Volga River near the Ural Mountains. Genetic studies have found that the Saami people diverged from the European stock about 10000 years ago.

It appears that the Romans were aware of the Saami at the end of the first century CE. The Saami were also known to the Norse which settled the lower parts of Sweden and Norway; one article linked the Saami as exemplars for the people in the Norse mythology.

While the Saami seem to have co-existed comfortably with the Norse, they fared poorly in the Middle Ages when nation building was prevalent. Being nomadic and without any organization or ethnic cohesiveness, they were no match for the people of the south with their government, technology and legal systems, much like all indigenous people around the world. Their ancestral lands were taken, and sometimes Saami were compelled to provide labour to resource exploiters. At one point, three different monarchs held claim to the Saami homelands and simultaneously levied taxes on the same Saami to prove it.

In the latter half of the twentieth century, the Saami began to organize and stand up for their rights. The Saami Council was first established in 1956 to enable the various Saami organizations in Norway, Sweden and Finland to promote a common program of activities before the authorities in each of the countries through which the parliaments and, to consolidate the feeling of affinity among the Saami people, to attain recognition for the Saami as a nation and to

¹ This word is variously spelt Sami, Saami and Sámi. I'm not sure if there is an official spelling. To some Saami, the word “lapp” is a cloth patch on clothing, so the term Lapp is considered offensive.

² Although there are archaeological finds of a culture called Komsa that may have survived the ice age in the area.

maintain the economic, social and cultural rights of the Saami in the legislation of the four states.”³ The Saami of the Kola Peninsula region of Russia joined the Saami Council in 1992.

The International Labour Organization enacted ILO Convention 169 which sets out a number of rights concerning the world’s indigenous peoples. Norway was the first country to ratify ILO 169 and to have incorporated it into its legal system; Denmark has also ratified this Convention.

Norway, Sweden and Finland have each enacted legislation establishing representative assemblies known as “Saami parliaments” to represent the interests of their Saami minority; there has been an attempt to create one in Russia. As of 2001, these parliaments have been united through the Saami Parliamentary Conference held annually. However, these parliaments and councils still do not seem to have the power to protect the historic culture and livelihood of the Saami against modern pressures of resource exploitation and recreation.

So on the 6th of February, celebrate the 20th instance of the Saami National Day with thoughts for their success in maintaining and improving their rights and existence. Otherwise in a few decades, the word “tundra” may be all we have by which to remember them.

Peter Macnaughton
(with thanks to Wikipedia and Lennard Sillanpää)

Venus’s Women

Is your name Magda, Pirkko, Helga, Gudrun, Ingrid or Wendla? Then there is a small crater with your name on it on Venus. How so?

The US operated a space probe named Magellan in orbit about the planet Venus between August 1990 and October 1994. Magellan used an on-board radar to map the surface through the dense clouds shrouding the planet which have frustrated astronomers for centuries.

The International Astronomical Union decided that features on Venus were to be given feminine names⁴.

The feature types on Venus break down into a few main categories:

- Goddesses and mythological heroines
- Famous women and deceased women who have made outstanding or fundamental contributions to their field
- Common female first names
- Words for the planet Venus.

Of the list of 2031 entries in the Catalog, I identified 135 as being of Nordic or Canadian origin:

³ From the Saami Council web site <http://www.saamicouncil.net/?deptid=2178>

⁴ Though a single feature identified by an earth based radar has already honoured a man, James Clerk Maxwell.

Origin	Number	Goddesses	Famous women	Common Female names
Canadian	3		3	
Canadian (Native)	12	10		1
Danish	6	1	2	3
Finnish	26	10	1	15
Greenland	See note below			
Icelandic	2	2		
Inuit	11	7		4
Norse	33	32		1
Norwegian	6		4	2
Saami-Lapp	8	8		
Scandinavian	11	8		3
Swedish	15		9	6

The Catalog had a real mixture for its ethnic attributions – including Saami and Lapps, Scandinavian, Norse - that I can't assign to one of the Nordic countries. There were many entries described as Eskimo which I PC'd⁵ to Inuit, including the one entry relatable to Greenland. There were quite a few features named after “Native American” indigenous groups and I tried to isolate the ones located in Canada. There were a number of entries for Finns such as Volga-Finns which I excluded unless a search of the Internet clearly identified them as associated with Finland or the Finnish territories lost in WW II. There were no entries attributable to the Faroe Islands.

Since no goddesses are listed for the Swedes or the Norwegians, their spiritual and mythical persons are likely listed under the Norse and Scandinavian entries. Only one group actually have a feature named for their word for Venus – the Iroquoian Gendenwitha.

The complete list of Nordic, Canadian and indigenous first names with a little pock mark of a crater on Venus is:

Canadian (Native): Wiwi-yokpa

Danish: Inga, Magda, Valborg

Finnish: Berta, Eila, Eini, Elma, Hilikka, Inkeri, Irma, Jutta, Kaisa, Kylli, Outi, Pirkko, Talvikki, Terhi, Ulpu

Inuit: Imagmi, Inira, Umkana, Unitak

Norse: Gudrun

Norwegian: Helga, Liv

Scandinavian: Astrid, Ingrid, Sigrid

Swedish: Emilia, Frida, Lotta, Stina, Ulla, Wendla

I'll list the features named after famous and significant women in a future newsletter. If anyone wants to search for their self, go to <http://planetarynames.wr.usgs.gov/Page/VENUS/target> and select All Features.

Peter Macnaughton

⁵ Politically Corrected

NORDIC RESOURCES

Just a reminder that there is a list of Nordic Resources located on our website

<http://www.canadiannordicsociety.com/resources.html>

including the Nordic Embassies, the Ottawa-based social organizations, and links to newspapers and museums in the Nordic Countries. The list is on the Nordic Resources tab on the general web site, or use the link above.

MEMBERSHIP

The CNS membership year is from September 1 to August 31 which means that it is once again necessary to renew your membership for the 2012-2013 year. Our membership dues remain the same as they have been for a number of years: \$20.00 for an individual membership, \$30.00 for a family membership, \$15.00 for a student membership. Please fill in the form, enclose a cheque and mail it to our mail box indicated in our letterhead.

It is the membership dues that enable us to have our Speakers' series which has been one of the distinguishing aspects of the Canadian Nordic Society program since we were established in 1963. While we work in close co-operation with the five Nordic embassies situated in Ottawa, CNS does not receive any financial support from any embassy or other organization.

We depend on our membership to enable us to continue carrying out a program of activities that promote a better understanding of the societies and cultures of the Nordic countries.



Canadian Nordic Society

If you are already a member, please pass this on to a friend!

Name: _____ Date: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone (home): _____ Phone (work): _____

email: _____ Fax : _____

To reduce costs, the newsletter will be sent electronically to those with email addresses unless otherwise advised.

Family Membership - \$30, Individual Membership - \$20. Student Membership - \$15.

As a Member you:

- will receive the Society's Newsletter
- are invited to participate in all CNS events
- are encouraged to become actively involved in the life of the Society
- receive discounts on tickets to CNS events

Canadian Nordic Society Board Members – 2012-2013

Lennard Sillanpää - President	613-837-1641	cell: 613-298-4799	lennard.sillanpaa@sympatico.ca
Lennart Nylund - Vice President	613-829-8602		lnylund@sympatico.ca
Simon Snow - Treasurer	613-866-7669		ottawalainen@rogers.com
- Secretary		Position Vacant	
Martti Lahtinen - Councillor	819-827-0899		mLahtinen_13@hotmail.com
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Lars Öhman - Honorary President			

Peter Macnaughton - Newsletter Editor, (not a board member) 613-224-8527 peter.macnaughton@sympatico.ca

If you have any questions about your membership, please contact one of the Board Members. Membership dues can be given to any Board Member or you can mail your payment to:

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