

**FREE
TAKE
ONE!**

*Published in the interest of
North Americans of Scandinavian descent*

Scandinavian Heritage *News*

Spring 2019



In Sweden, the custom of bringing birch twigs into the house and decorating them with coloured feathers dates back to the 1880s.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Uffda! It has been a long, cold winter. I think we are all ready for warmer weather, green grass, and sunshine! My name is Jennifer Lock, a life-long Minot resident and graduate of Minot State University. I am honored and excited to serve as your new SHA president for the upcoming year. I am passionate about the park because I have a deep interest in learning about my Norwegian heritage and being an advocate for the park allows me to keep my culture alive. I look forward to the many opportunities for us to grow as an association and to encourage our youth to embrace the Scandinavian culture of our community. We would like to thank Gail Peterson for her hard work and dedication as President the last several years (16 to be exact). She has made a huge impact to this association.

Our annual meeting took place on January 26, 2019. Our secretary and treasurer remain the same, Marion Anderson and Sue Weston, respectively. We would also like to thank them for the many hours they dedicate to the park and SHA. I would like to congratulate Liz Gjellstad on accepting the position as Vice President. I look forward to



working with her in the upcoming year. We would like to welcome our newest members to the board, Austin Feist and Melissa Haugen.

Our Annual Banquet and Silent Auction are coming up on April 27, 2019, at the Clarion Hotel in Minot. Our banquet committee has been working extensively, planning the event and lining up auction items. I look forward to seeing you and your guests at this event. Tickets are available at the SHA office and on our website.

Our park is one of the most unique parks in North Dakota and a tourist destination for many visitors. I encourage you to invite others to visit the park and enjoy the many beautiful features it has to offer. We are always looking for volunteers to help in the summer tourist months (May-September). I challenge you to volunteer at the park this summer and help us make it the most enjoyable experience for our visitors! I would like to thank all of the previous and future volunteers, board members, and members of the Scandinavian Heritage Association- without your efforts, this organization wouldn't be possible.

Peace, Love, and Lefse!

— **Jennifer Lock**
SHA President

Scandinavian Heritage News

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Scandinavian Heritage Association

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Minot ND 58702

(701) 852-9161 • scandha@srt.com

scandinavianheritage.org

2019 OFFICERS

Jennifer Lock	<i>President</i>
Elizabeth Gjellstad	<i>Vice President</i>
Marion Anderson	<i>Secretary</i>
Sue Weston	<i>Treasurer</i>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Three-year terms ending January 2022

Marion Anderson	Liz Gjellstad
Jana Hennix	Robert Bruhaug
Melissa Haugen	Sue Weston
Adelaide Johnson	

Three-year terms ending January 2021

Myron Anderson	Curt Medalen
Jarrold Olson	Erv Johnson
Eva Goodman	Jennifer Lock
Austin Feist	

Three-year terms ending January 2020

Jerome Jorgenson	Helene Anderson
Les Strege	Joan Varty
Marilyn Wagner	Connie Lowman
Tessa Nesheim	

One-year terms ending January 2020

Kev Davick	Rod Martinson
Jordon Lakoduk	

Ex-Officio Members

Gail Peterson, *Past President*
Mark Anderson, *Past President*
Bruce Christenson, *Past President*
Carroll Erickson, *Past President*
Allen O. Larson, *Past President*
Roald Mattson, *Past President*
George Officer, *Past President*

Directors Emeritus

Jeanne McNea	Jim Maragos
John Sinn	Doris Slaaten

SPRING 2019 Calendar

- | | |
|--|---|
| • April 5 - SON First Annual Torsk Dinner; 5-7 pm; \$12 | • April 27 —2 pm, Swedish Society meeting |
| • April 11 - Norsk Høstfest Tickets On Sale | • May 17 —Syttendi Mai |
| • April 13 —10 am - 2 pm, Sons of Norway Spring Bazaar | • June 6 —Swedish Flag Day |
| • April 27 —SHA Banquet, Clarion Hotel, \$30 | • June 19 —Midsummer Night, Scandinavian Heritage Park |



Catch us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/ScandHeritPark/>



Photo by Amanda Punt

Join the Scandinavian Heritage Association today!



Join us in preserving the values and traditions of our proud heritage. Established 1988, the park is the only one in the world representing all five Scandinavian countries and hosts thousands of visitors each year from around the world.

As a member of the Scandinavian Heritage Association, you help support:

- Interpretive Tours of the Park
- The Heritage House Museum
- Local School Field Trips
- "Midsommer Natt" Celebration
- The on-going preservation and promotion of the Scandinavian traditions, positive

values and ethics

- And much more!

Memberships start at \$35 and includes many benefits. Please call (701) 852-9161 or stop by our office to become a member!

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

SUSTAINING

\$35.00 per year will receive the SHA Membership Package, which includes:

- Membership Card good for 10% off Scandinavian Gift Shop items
- Membership Pin (initial membership)
- The Scandinavian Heritage News, official newsletter of Scandinavian Heritage Association

- Invitation to Annual Banquet and other SHA events

SPONSOR

\$100.00-\$499.00 per year will receive the SHA Membership Package, plus:

- Recognition in the Newsletter (1 issue)
- One Complimentary Ticket to the Annual Banquet

BENEFACTOR

\$500 and above per year will receive the SHA Membership Package, plus:

- Recognition in the Newsletter (1 issue)
- Two Complimentary Tickets to the Annual Banquet

SHA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name (print) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL

☐ Sustaining Member ☐ Sponsor Member ☐ Benefactor Member

PAYMENT ☐ Check ☐ MC ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ Am. Exp.

Card# _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ Exp. date _____

Name on card _____ 3-Dig _____

Signature _____

Please mail to SHA, PO Box 862, Minot ND 58702

Leaving Behind A Legacy

Marian B. Bergan, 97, Minot, ND, passed away Tuesday, December 25, 2018, at Trinity Homes in Minot.



Marian Blanche Skogen was born December 24, 1921, the daughter of Carl and Gunhild (Iverson) Skogen, in rural Remer, Minnesota. The family moved to a farm near Roseglen, ND, when Marian was two years old. She was raised on the farm and attended elementary school in Roseglen and graduated from Ryder High School.

Following her high school graduation, she then went on to pursue her degree in nursing in Rochester, MN. Nursing was her passion throughout her life.

On January 15, 1944, Marian married Louis Clifford Bergan, in Rochester, MN. Due to Clifford's service to his country and his occupation, they moved a lot. They had lived in various cities in North Dakota, where Marian actively pursued her nursing career. They completed their family by bringing into their lives their three sons: Eric, Paul and Brian. The family also lived in various cities in South Dakota, where Marian worked as a public health nurse.

They then moved to Batavia, Illinois, where Marian worked for the State of Illinois as a nurse in the penal



▲ Jenny Lock, president of the Scandinavian Heritage Association, shakes hands with Ed Haugen, Thrivent Financial, as she accepts a check from Marian & Cliff Bergan's whole life policy.

system. On May 12, 1979, at the age of 58, Marian received her Bachelor's degree in Nursing from Northern Illinois University.

Later in life, Marian and Cliff made their home in Minot, ND, where she was an active member of First Lutheran Church, Sons of Norway, and the Scandinavian Heritage Center. Marian was on the Scandinavian Heritage Board for several years and also served as the Secretary of the Board. Cliff passed away April 26, 1995.

Leaving a legacy

Marian and Cliff Bergan were instrumental in getting the Scandinavian Heritage Park started and are continuing their legacy in death. Cliff, along with Marian, set up a whole life policy under Marian's name with the beneficiary being Scandina-



▲ The Scandinavian Heritage Park in its beginning stages.

vian Heritage Association. This life legacy was paid in full by Bergans in order to maintain the mission of Scandinavian Heritage Park and was established through Thrivent Financial. This year, Ed Haugen of Thrivent, presented Jenny Lock, president of Scandinavian Heritage

Association with the legacy check totaling \$207,852.48 to help preserve the future of the park. Bergans did not restrict this gift for any particular purpose and it is the Scandinavian Heritage Board that will determine how to put this generous gift to use.

SHA Donations

We are grateful for all the donations received, and the memory for which they are honoring.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

■ Christine Huesers, given by Klara M. Huesers
 ■ Noreen Erickson, given by Laurie Lafontaine, James & Joan Schumaier, Janice Pascale, Debra E Simpson, Lois & Robert Lindquist, Myron & Marion Anderson, Tina Grotheer, Valarie Hummel, John Sinn, Norsk Hostfest, Joe & Lorraine Luizzia, Robert & Dorothy Graffam, Kevin & Margie Lee, William & Lori Brown, Eva Goodman, Paula T Williams, Ronald F Bauer Sr, Margaret Schiess, Mavis Fried, Brenda Donahue, Connie Smith, Rich Belanger, Perry & Deb Sayler
 ■ Lois Matson, given by Paula Selland, Mark Hendrickson, Marilyn Wagner, Doris Slaaten, Adelaide Johnson, Elizabeth Gjellstad, Lowell & Ann Latimer, Verla Hodgson, John Sinn, Myron and Marion Anderson, Curt & Lorraine Medalen, First Western Bank, Marian Askim, Sandra Krueger, Bonnie Feist, Tessa Nesheim, Margo Helgersen

■ Ernie Selland, given by Paula Selland, Mark Hendrickson
 ■ Robert "Bob" Whetter, given by Eva Goodman
 ■ Marian Bergan, given by Myron & Marion Anderson, Irene Solie, Kari Mahle, Jeanice Officer, Martha & Craig Elliott, Doris Slaaten, Eva Goodman
 ■ Don Streitz, given by Marilyn Wagner
 ■ Shirley Birkholz, given by John Sinn

BANQUET DONATION

■ Given by Kim Albert Agency-- Allstate Insurance, Curt Medalen

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS DONATION

■ Given by John Sinn

UNDESIGNATED DONATION

■ Given by Lynn Aas

NEW MEMBERS

■ Mike & Phyllis Burckhard, Melissa Haugen, Austin Feist

KOM SPIS • KOMA BORDA • COME ÄTA • TULKAA SYÖMÄÄN • KOMMER SPISE

2019 Scandinavian Heritage Association Banquet

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

Clarion Hotel • Minot, ND

\$30 / person

RSVP BY MONDAY, April 22, 2019

Call (701) 852-9161 to request reserved seating for a table of 8

Banquet Schedule

- 5:30 pm - Social hour & Silent Auction
- 6:30 pm - Dinner
(Vegetarian dinner upon request)
- Special Program and Dinner selected to celebrate our quarter century of helping fund raise for the park.

BANQUET ORDER FORM

I would like to attend the 2019 SHA Banquet / Silent Auction. I am enclosing \$_____ (\$30 per person) for _____ ticket(s). Please mail my tickets to:

Name _____ Phone number _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please mail order form to: Scandinavian Heritage Assn., PO Box 862, Minot ND 58702 or stop by SHA Office

Remembrance: A look at the lives of Scandinavian Heritage Association supporters



Noreen (Schumaier) Erickson, (80) passed away on January 8, 2019 in Stuart, FL. She was born in Beulah, ND on November 10, 1938 to Martha and Emanuel Schumaier.

A graduate of Beulah High School in 1957, she attended Capital Commercial College in Bismarck, ND for one year and began her employment with

Sweetheart Bakery and Meisner Construction. Following her marriage to Carroll Erickson on April 28, 1960, they moved to Minot where Carroll had begun his law enforcement career.

She volunteered at Little Flower School in the school library and became employed there as a teacher's aide and librarian. Following that, she

was employed at the Dennis Helgeson Insurance firm and Triplett Insurance Agency for many years.

Her funeral was held January 26, 2019 at Aycock Funeral Home Young & Prill Chapel, in Stuart, FL. Memorials are preferred to the Scandinavian Heritage Park in Minot, ND or the donor's choice.



Lois Matson, 83, Minot, died Wednesday, March 13, 2019, in a Minot assisted living facility.

Lois was born July 8, 1935 in Minot, ND to Erich and Wilma (Heilman) Hoechst. She grew up on the family farm near Bergen, ND and completed her education at Bergen Public School in 1953. Lois was united in marriage to David Matson on May 16, 1965 at Oak Valley Lutheran Church in Velva, ND. They made their home on the prairie near Des Lacs, ND. Lois moved to Minot and was employed at Kresge Dime Store followed by Coca-Cola in an office position. She found her niche in the banking industry with Union National Bank for ten years until joining First Western Bank and Trust in 1969. Lois retired as a branch manager in 1997. She spent many summers working at Lowe's Floral and

Garden Center and volunteering at the Scandinavian Heritage Office and Norsk Høstfest in her retirement years.

Lois served on the Scandinavian Heritage Board and volunteered for several years in the office of the Park. When needed she also volunteered as a greeter in some of the Park buildings. Lois and Noreen Erickson spent many hours doing much of the painting on park benches, tables and railings in the Park. She was always there to help set up and clean up after the SHA Board meetings. During the Christmas season she also assisted with putting up lights and decorating the railing around the Visitors Center. During Hostfest time she also volunteered in the Scandinavian Heritage Bookstore. Lois was a very dedicated and loyal volunteer and friend—she will certainly be missed mightily.

Virgil Allen Rude, 83, Minot, died January 09, 2019.

Virgil was born July 29, 1935 in Bottineau, ND, to Alfred and Viola (Bjornseth) Rude. He was baptized and confirmed at Salem Lutheran Church, rural Bottineau and attended Loon Lake #5 rural school near Lake Metigoshe in Bottineau County. He graduated from Bottineau High School in 1953. Virgil's teaching career began at the Hilton #10 rural school near Lake Metigoshe. He earned his teaching certificate from Minot State University and later his Master's from the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks.

He taught at Ray and Lake Metigoshe, but spent several years at Bel Air Elementary School in Minot, before serving as the Elementary School

Director for Minot Public Schools from 1970-1995 when he retired. He continued with Minot State University as Supervisor of Student Teachers.

Virgil was a veteran and active with many organizations, some of which included: Phi Delta Kappa, Sons of Norway, Metigoshe Ministries Board, Minot Lions Club, Scandinavian Heritage Association, Norsk Høstfest, SCORE, Medora Foundation, Trails & Rides National Park



Program, Lewis & Clark Foundation, International Visitors Council, and long-time member of Augustana Lutheran Church until it closed due to the flood of 2011. Virgil became a member of Bread of Life Lutheran Church in Minot.

Virgil served on the Scandinavian Heritage Board of Directors, Norsk Høstfest Board of Directors and was a member of Thor Lodge Sons of Norway. He served as a tour guide in the Scandinavian Heritage Park and was very knowledgeable and precise. He especially enjoyed visiting with people and informing them about the history of the Gol Stave Church. He and his wife traveled to Norway several times as well as other countries.

Happenings



New board members

▲ Gail Peterson welcomes Jenny Lock as the new Scandinavian Heritage Association president.
► Please welcome new board members Melissa Haugen & Austin Feist



► The Danes met during their monthly meeting. Lois Lindquist who was visiting is seen here standing next to her father, John Sinn, and Mara Hintz (sitting), president of the Danish Society.



98 Years Young!

John Sinn celebrates 98 years of life with friends and relatives at the Scandinavian Heritage Association in January. Fun fact - Minot Mayor Shaun Sipma and John share the same birthday!



Swe-dish fun!

Swedish Society hosts Smörgåsbord class

The Gourmet Chef is a cozy, welcoming kitchen shop in Minot ND. It has a classroom in the shop that hosts an amazing variety of cooking classes. On March 7, the Swedish Society presented a cooking class on the Swedish Smörgåsbord. The class was well attended with 21 people in attendance. Over half of the attendees were of Swedish descent and there was one self-proclaimed Frenchy.

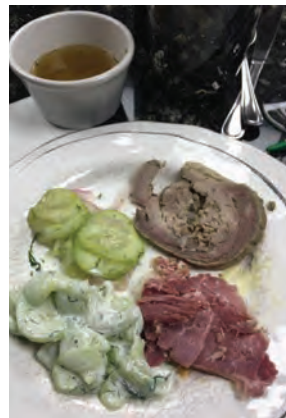
The Swedish Smörgåsbord is a traditional buffet style meal with multiple hot and cold dishes served buffet style. Sweden is not the only country that has this tradition. According to Wikipedia, all of the Scandinavian countries have their version of the Smörgåsbord. In Norway it is called koldtbord or kaldtbord' in Denmark det kolde bord (literally the cold table); in Iceland it is called hlaðborð (farmyard/courtyard table) and in Finland voileipäpöytä (butter-bread/sandwich table) or ruotsalainen seisova pöytä (Swedish standing table/buffet). However, it is the Swedish Smörgåsbord that became internationally famous when it was offered at the 1939 New York World's Fair at the Swedish Pavilion's "Three Crowns Restaurant".[1] It is typically a celebratory meal and guests can help themselves from a range of dishes laid out for their choice.

To prepare for the class, a team of six Swedish Society members met for Fika (afternoon coffee and treats) to pour over old cookbooks, share food memories and make decisions on what would be served at the class. All six team members volunteered to make traditional Swedish foods that would be presented. Some obstacles needed to be overcome. For example, the typical Smörgåsbord would not be complete



▲ From Left: Marilyn Fiedler, Bev Jensen, Kae Watson, Mavis Larson, Eldora Eliason, Lanora Brunnemeyer, Not pictured: Geraldine Larson

▼ From Left: Appetizer course, cold course, and hot course



Swedish Smorgasbord

without cold Swedish ham. Swedish ham is not cured or smoked and is not like American ham. The closest place to buy a Swedish ham was Minneapolis so the decision was made to cure our own. We did and, in the process, we all learned more about traditional Swedish foods. It took us out of our comfort zone to try some of the old recipes, but the results were wonderful.

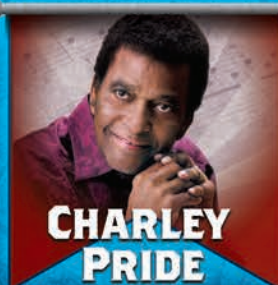
The Smörgåsbord is not eaten like an American buffet. In an American buffet, the participant chooses from a wide variety of foods and may return to eat more of their choosing. In Sweden, the Smörgåsbord is eaten in stages, starting

with the appetizers. A cold food course is next, followed by the hot food. Desserts are not traditionally set out on the table. The Society organized their Smörgåsbord presentation accordingly and had appetizers of cheese and home-made rye crisp crackers and pickled herring. The cold course consisted of home cured Rullepulse (Meat Roll), Swedish ham, home made Swedish Seed crackers and two cucumber salads. To accompany the salads was traditional Pea and Ham soup which is universally served in

CLASS: Cont. On Page 10

NORSK HOSTFEST

PURE SCANDIMONIUM!



Norsk Høstfest is fjordified with fun and Nordic culture.
Don't miss all the shows, cuisine, handcrafts, shopping and surprises!

SEPT. 25-28, 2019

Minot, North Dakota, USA
701.852.2368 • hostfest.com



RENT A FINN: Find Your Calm

Finland Will Pay You to Travel and Explore the Countryside with a Local

You might come up with a few theories as to why Finland has earned the title of world's happiest country for two years in a row. Maybe it's the fact that there's stunningly beautiful nature awaiting you around every corner there. At least, that's what many Finns chalk it up to and now the country's tourism board is hoping to introduce outsiders to the Nordic nation's sprawling countryside by flying in a few lucky people and having locals show them around.

To help celebrate the fact that the country has once again been deemed the world's happiest by the United Nations World Happiness Report, Finland's tourism board has just introduced what it's calling the "Rent A Finn" contest, which will fly in and a handful of lucky travelers and match them with local hosts to help them "connect with nature and find their calm." Bring on the calm, please.

To help reveal the Finnish secret to happiness to outsiders, eight different locals have signed up to be "happiness guides" and will each host chosen travelers for three days to do the sort of



things they typically do to experience nature. That could range from visiting a national park and fishing at a summer cottage, to berry picking in the wilderness and enjoying a proper Finnish sauna. The experiences are each curated by the hosts themselves to provide a true and authentic local perspective and you can browse the full lineup of hosts to get a better sense for what sort of activities are in the mix.

Although there are limited

spots, the contest is open to solo travelers, families, and even groups of friends, and whoever gets chosen will have their flights and accommodations paid for by Finland's tourism board.

To put yourself in the running to win a spot, you just need to film a short video about yourself, your connection to nature, and why you'd like to visit Finland and submit it with the entry form before **April 14**. Then, the organizers will sort through

them to select winners, then work with them to arrange their trip at some point between June and August.

And, if you do end up scoring one of the coveted few spots and later decide Finland is the place you need to be, may we suggest considering this spectacularly calming housing option.

Learn more at <https://rentafinn.com/en/>

CLASS: From Page 8

Sweden on Thursdays. The hot course followed with Swedish Meatballs, boiled potatoes, Hasselback potatoes, a baked red cabbage, sautéed in butter and vinegar and topped off with apples and currant jelly and Swedish baked beans made of beans only grown commercial-

ly in Sweden. Of course, the offerings would not be complete without Lingonberry sauce. For dessert, a crispy gingerbread cookie was served with rice pudding and fruit soup.

Participants received demonstrations on rolling and baking the Rye Crisp, the Swedish Seed crackers and the rullepolse.

A good time was had by both the participants and the Swedish Society ladies in yellow. The ladies made enough food to host a Swedish Smörgåsbord for Society members on March 9th. It was a fun way to share our heritage and it turned out well, which was a great relief to all of us.


99 YEARS YOUNG!



George Officer spends his 99th birthday with friends and family at Somerset.

Bottom two photos: The "Pillars" of SHA - George Officer, 99, John Sinn, 98, and Doris Slaaten, 98.





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via the
Quist and Chelgren (Johnson)
lineages.*



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Find your ancestors; one kit at a time

On a cold day in January, the Minot chapter of the Swedish Society met at the Scandinavian Heritage Center to discuss Genetic testing for the purpose of determining heritage. There are several well-known companies that, for a fee, will provide a breakdown of a person's heritage using DNA. One TV commercial for the testing feature a guy who thought he was German only to find out he was Scottish. The one thing about the commercial that is spot on is that sometimes oral family history differs from scientific fact. As one company says, "Your DNA tells the story of who you are and how you're connected to populations around the world." We also received information about a free website called Findagrave.com.

I thought it would be interesting to give others an idea about what to expect by sharing my results. I am an end user and have no scientific background nor am I even an amateur family historian. This article is based on my experience and is not an endorsement of any product.

DNA is extracted though saliva in a kit sent to the purchaser. It is rather easy. The kit is returned to the company and processed. It takes up to six weeks to receive the results. The product is web based and the results are viewed via internet.

In addition to determining heritage, a person can also pay extra for health information. The health information can provide information on issues that may be of interest and a lot that is kind of unimportant. The health information is not intended to be a diagnosis. It simply tells the person if they may be at risk for certain diseases or disorders such as Macular degeneration.

I received my testing kit as a Christ-

mas gift. It took the full six weeks to get the results. Of course, there is a certain sense of curiosity and anticipation when opening the results. Three of four great grandparents emigrated from Sweden and one from Germany. All emigrated in the 19th century. So, my story has always been that I am three quarters Swede and a quarter German. The Genetic testing had a few surprises. It confirmed that I was Swedish and German but also a few other nationalities as well. I am 44.5% Swedish and 18.1% German. I am also 18.6% Broadly Northwestern European. This group of people is a mixture of all peoples that live in proximity of the Baltic and North Seas from as far west as Iceland and

east to Finland, north to Sweden and Norway and south to Germany and the Netherlands and includes the UK and the Baltic states. Wikipedia defines it as Norseman. In other words, I come from a long line of sailors. Because southern Sweden is included in this group, it did not alter my version of the family story.

I also found out that I was 5% Eastern European. My German side of the family took the sur name Barth which is a city in Prussia and is located next to Poland. This was a surprise but also again, made sense. I was also surprised to find out that I was 10% English/Irish. This, I have no idea where it comes from. It

DNA: Cont. On Page 13



DNA: From Page 12

will take a bit of searching to figure who was English/Irish. I suspect it might be my Great Grandmother who was born in Grano, Jonkoping County Sweden. Her last name Boo is Old English in origin. That is my only clue to go on. The small bit of research that I have done indicates that there are other people with the last name Boo in Southern Sweden, but also in the United Kingdom. Also, in the mix was 1.3% Southern European. All totaled, I am 99.4% European. The other .06% is divided between North African and Sub-Saharan African.

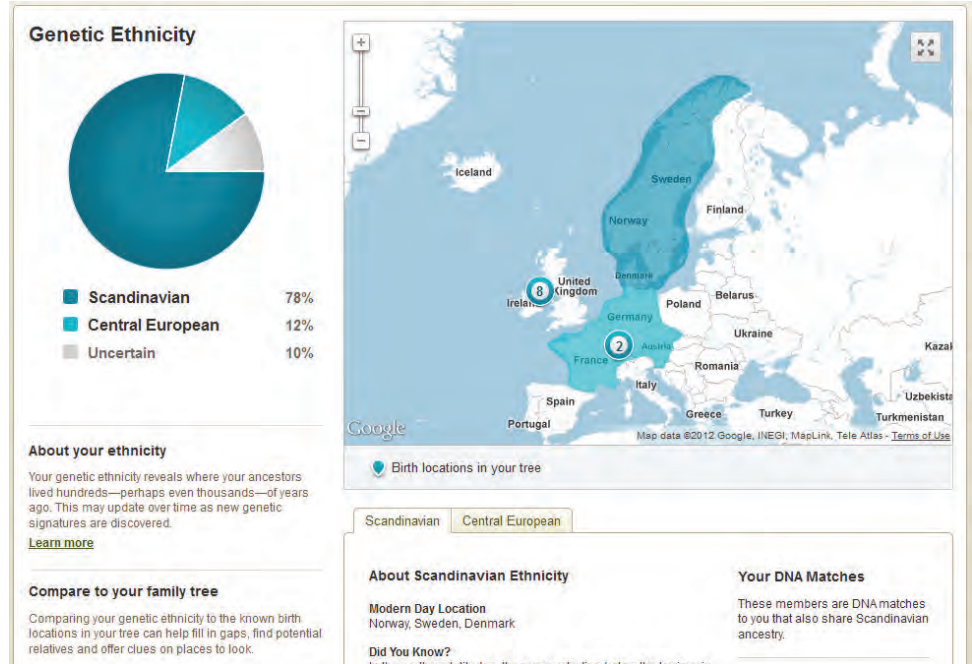
There is also an accuracy meter, so to speak. These results have a 50% probability. When the bar is raised to 100%, the results are 100% European. The result can also change as more information is analyzed.

The heritage information also pinpoints where they think your ancestors come from in the prospective countries. For example, when I pull up the data on my Swedish ancestry, it shows that there is a link to people living in the following counties in Sweden.

1. Skåne County
2. Stockholm County
3. Västra Götaland County
4. Dalarna County
5. Östergötland County
6. Jonkoping County
7. Kalmar County

The testing also includes linking you to people that you are related to. In order to get this information, you must agree to share. If you chose not to share, then you do not see who may be related to you. It correctly identified the relationship to my daughter, first cousin and several second cousins. In all, I am related to over 1000 people. I only recognize seven names. It does show that I share great great-grandparents with twelve people in Sweden. It is possible to contact any one on the list through an online message. Some people are identified by name, others by initials.

The information doesn't stop there. It provides information on which Haplogroup you belong to and how much Neanderthal you are (most European peoples are part Neanderthal). It takes time to explore all the information.



Herb Schwede, a member of the Mouse River Loop Genealogy Society was also present at the meeting and gave us a view of a website called Find A Grave. The Mouse River Loop Genealogy Society meets at 1:00P First Saturday of the month at the Minot Public Library and is open to all who are interested. Findagrave.com is an amazing free website in which hobby photographers take pictures of cemeteries across the country. It was once a hobby site but was sold to Ancestry.com with the provision that it remains free to use. I found it to be full of all sorts of

▲ DNA results give people a wealth of data to dig through.

◀ DNA testing is simple. You just spit into a tube and mail off. Read directions through because you cannot eat or drink 30 minutes before the spit test.

information. First, you can find pictures of your family's graves by searching by name in certain cemeteries. Of great importance was birth and death dates. Family historians can also post family pictures, history and family lineage on the site. I was able to get an amazing amount of information about my mother's side of the family. It included family pictures that I had never seen. It identified birthplaces in Sweden of my great grandparents. Of course, the information is limited to what has been posted. No information existed for my dad's Swedish relatives.

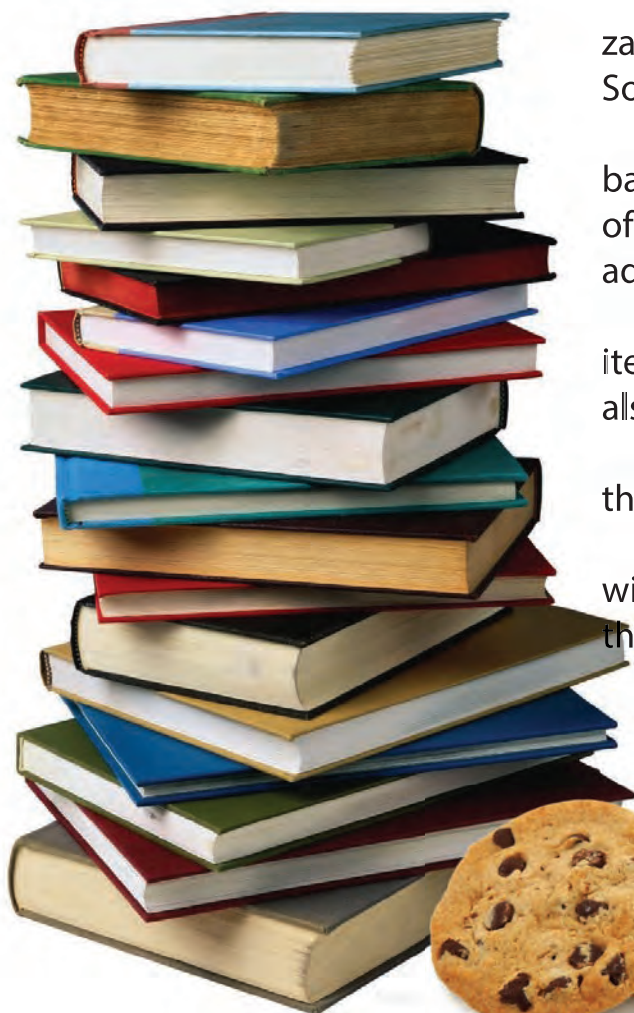
Whether or not someone decides to do the testing, the data is only information. What you do with that information is up to the end user. It is also worth noting that once this knowledge is disclosed, there is no taking it back. All in all, I am glad that I did the testing. It has given me a renewed interest in my Swedish Heritage. It may have altered the perception of where my ancestors came from but did not change who I am. It gave me other cultures in which to explore and be a part of.

BAKE SALE • LUNCHEON • PIE AND ICE CREAM • GRANDMA'S ATTIC • BOOK SALE

THOR LODGE BAZAAR

**10 am - 2 pm, Saturday
April 13**

Location: 1020 S. Broadway, Sons of Norway, Lower level



Thor Lodge will have their spring pre-Easter bazaar from 10 am to 2 pm, Saturday, April 13 in the Sons of Norway Thor's Lodge.

Please plan to bring some baked items for the bake sale and also pies for the luncheon. A lunch of sandwiches or knephla soup will be available, in addition to the pie and ice cream.

Items are needed for Grandma's Attic. Good used items will be appreciated. There will be a book sale also, so you can bring books for the sale.

And, we need people help serve the lunch, cut up the pies and help throughout the day.

Call Martha at 838-8554 to help in the kitchen with the lunch or if you are available to help with the bazaar.



Full STEAM Ahead

STEAM's mission is to provide cultural enrichment to the children of the Minot area through enjoyable exciting and creative experiences. They focus on science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics.

Before the formation of STEAM, there were a few programs that helped them become what they are today. Some of those programs are MASK theater, Kid's Clay, and Minot Robotics.

MASK is a flagship organization. It is a children's theatre that started in the Fall of 2015. Their start was with 30 kids in the basement of a local school and it has only grown.

Then, STEAM expanded to Kid's Clay. It started as a one-time event, but it was such a hit they turned it into a weekly program. STEAM has offered a variety of other workshops and camps such as Magic Classes, programming workshops, and others.

The Fall of 2017 brought a new adventure for STEAM. They were approached to expand the number of FIRST Lego League Lego robotics teams in Minot. This is when we started Minot Robotics and grew their nonprofit into Full STEAM Ahead. Minot robotics had 14 teams this past season.

The people behind STEAM were inspired by the kids to create these programs. They now offer chess camps, programming camps, tea parties, t-ball, and kickball.

STEAM focuses on programs that children can lead. That allows them to participate and create the story, the robot, or the art project. This is to expand the horizons of the children so they can try new things.

After learning about STEAM, you're probably wondering, "Where do I sign my kid up?" You can find information about all of these programs on their website, steamnd.org. You can check out their Facebook pages as well, Make a Scene Kids Theatre, Full STEAM Ahead, Kid's Clay, Minot Robotics, Minot 3-6 Year Old t-ball, Minot Youth Kickball.

STEAM believes in fundraising by bringing new events to the community. Their 3-6-year-old T-ball league is their largest fundraiser with over 550 kids anticipated for the 2019 summer. They have workshops, classes, and camps.

Check out STEAM and all the great things they provide to the Minot community! They have events going on all the time, don't miss out.



Scandinavian Heritage Association

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