The Icelandic Canadian Club of British Columbia

NEWSLETTER

June 2018 **XLX:vi**

Scandinavian Midsummer FESTIVAL

June 23-24, 2018

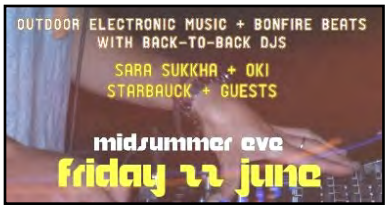
Scandinavian Community Centre

4540 Thomas Street, Burnaby, BC
604-294-2777
10 am to 6 pm on Saturday
10 am to 4 pm on Sunday

There are Icelandic, Danish, Swedish, Norwegian, Finnish tents which include cultural displays and other interesting stuff; there is all kinds of food, there is entertainment on stage all day, and music, there is a Viking Village where the kids can practice sword fighting (maybe, you too), shopping tents, beer garden, the traditional dancing around the maypole, kid's activities, Volvo club, bonfire, the wife carrying contest on Sunday, and more.

And, don't forget Friday night,
June the 22nd
19+ Youth Dance
$15 at the door







Celebrate on Sunday, June 17—Iceland Independence Day

—Join in the Fun at the Scandinavian Community Centre
6540 Thomas Street, Burnaby, B.C.
Attend between 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Hot Dogs – Bouncy Castle- Singing- Talk about World Cup Soccer-
Have a Beer- Have a Coffee- Vínarterta and Goodies

This will be a 'by donation' event sponsored by the Icelandic Canadian Club.



PASSINGS

ANDERSON, Verona
May 25, 1918 – April 19, 2018



We are very sad to announce the passing of our mother just 5 weeks before her 100th birthday. She will be greatly missed by her daughters, Elinore (Jim) Lyons, Elaine (Fred) Harris and grandchildren, Corey (Marie) Lyons, Karin (Glen)Pedneault, Sterling Harris, Christopher (Ashley) Harris, Phillip (Nicole) Harris and 8 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her sister, Ilo Edbom of Vita, Manitoba. Verona was born in Piney, Manitoba to Alfred and Gertrude Reed and there she married Conrad (Connie) Anderson. She and Connie moved to Vancouver and finally to Burnaby in the 1940's. She and Connie were active members of the Icelandic Canadian Club of B.C. and she became a lifetime member of the club, also participating in the many activities of Hőfn. She also became a member for over 20 years of the Burnaby General Hospital Auxiliary and enjoyed the activities there including quilting and knitting to raise funds for the hospital. She enjoyed having many family gatherings and loved to serve her Icelandic baking including Vinarterta and kleiners especially. A special thank you to the staff at Morgan Place in Surrey who cared for her so lovingly. She will be sadly missed but always remembered for the gentle and caring lady that she was.

BALDWINSON, Leslee



Suddenly on **April 27, 2018** Leslee passed away peacefully at home in Langley, BC, at the young age of 55. Leslee was born in Edmonton, Alberta on September 17, 1962. She was well educated and had her BA in Criminology which she passed with Honors on the Dean's List. Over the years Leslee worked in many careers in Iceland, Manitoba and BC such as the fishing industry, project engineer energy consultant, music industry, food and beverage industry and management positions. Her employers included Djupivogur Bulandstindur Ehf /Fish Co., Winnipeg and Vancouver Press Clubs, Demand Side Energy and Kraftur Engineering Group and Hecla Island Gull Harbour Resort. Very talented musically Leslee was a guitar player. She was a fan of musician Hank Williams Sr., and proudly wore a beautiful black and white photograph tattoo on her arm as they had the same birthdays. She was fiercely proud of her 100% Icelandic bloodline, history and heritage. Left to mourn her passing are her brother Lorne Baldwinson and sister Colleen Baldvinsson Njalsdőttir, half-brother Dennis, her stepmother Merilyn, nieces and nephews Clint (Amanda), Jesse (children Emma and Isaac), Cheyenne (Armin) and Alex, her stepson Jesse, her Uncles and Aunties, many cousins, numerous stepsisters and brothers, Darrell, Glenda, Tracey (Eastman) and Patti Lynn, Brenda, Paul, David and Beth (Wheeler) step-nieces and nephews, and many friends. She was predeceased by her stepdad Roy Wheeler in 2004, sister Correen in 2011, father Neil in 2016 and heartbroken about her mother Ethel Lily Bergen's recent passing on March 19, 2018. Graveside service will be held at 11 a.m., August 4, 2018 in New Iceland at the Riverton, Manitoba Cemetery. Góða nótt og guð blessi þig elsku litla Leslee.

FARADAY, Joan—passed away recently. She has been a long-time, active member with our club. Her bio will be in the September newsletter.

JOHANNSON, Helen
February 3, 1924 - April 16, 2018



It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved mother Helen Guðrun Johannson (nee Halldorson). She was predeceased by her husband Kristjan and her daughter Sharman, survived by her sons Keith and Gary, daughters Shelley and Kristy, 15 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren, sister Frances and many nieces and nephews. She was an amazing lady who was 94 years young, who loved travel, reading and most of all visits with family and friends. We will miss her forever.

JOHNSON, Lorna Jean (nee Craig)
May 14, 1935 – April 11, 2018

Lorna died peacefully on April 11, 2018. She was predeceased by her husband Dr. Hjalmar Johnson and is remembered by her children Jeff, Karen and Lynn, and grandchildren Kristofer and Jorgen. Lorna had an unparalleled appreciation for style, and her impression on those around her will not soon be forgotten. Lorna trained as a nurse and graduated from the Winnipeg General Hospital. Her career in nursing would be interrupted by a charming doctor in need of a glass of juice. This doctor would become Lorna's husband; they married in 1957. Immediately following their wedding, they moved to Salt Spring Island where they started their family despite Hjalmar being the only doctor on the island and Lorna working as the office nurse. Several years later they would move to Vancouver where they resided for the rest of their years. Throughout her life, Lorna enjoyed the companionship of friends, playing bridge, golf, tennis, and her work at BC Children's Hospital. While we will miss her, Lorna has left us to be reunited with Hjalmar, likely interrupting his golf game.

SPRING 2018 ICELANDIC LANGUAGE CLASS



The Icelandic Language Class began with over 40 people attending; taught by Gunnar Hansson (standing under the Exit sign by the door) and Edda Langworth (taking the picture). Another Icelandic class will be held in the early Fall. Information will be in our September newsletter and on our website. **www.icelandicclubbc.org**

Although there are differences in the Scandinavian languages, laughter sounds the same everywhere.

That was readily apparent at the **Meet & Greet hosted by Sweden House at the Scandinavian Community Centre** on Friday, April 27.

The events are held so people from all of the houses can get to know one another. The evening started with beer and wine, followed by a nice dinner and fabulous home made desserts, all prepared by the Sweden House volunteers.

"Each House has their special celebrations and gatherings throughout the year," said Ron Stubbings, president of the Scandinavian Community Centre board of directors. "This is a great chance for all of us to come together as a wider Scandinavian community."

The evening ended with a challenging trivia contest featuring questions about all five countries.

For future Meet & Greets, as well as other opportunities to socialize with the other Houses, check out the Events Calendar on the Centre web site (scandinaviancentre.org).

By Lee Lipton

Höfn Icelandic Harbour

ASSISTED LIVING & AFFORDABLE HOUSING



ICELANDIC CARE HOME HÖFN SOCIETY



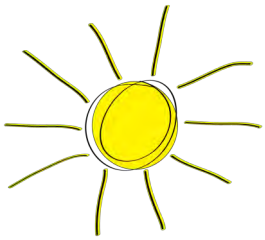
A Proud Associate Member of the Icelandic National League of North America

2020 Harrison Dr. Vancouver V5P 2P6
www.icelandicharbour.org

604.321.3812
info@icelandicharbour.org

Providing Care for Seniors Since 1947

Summer has come and the "livin' is easy." The staff of the newsletter takes July and August off, returning in September. We hope your summer is carefree and warm.



Tour to Iceland—August 14 to 26, 2019

A special tour to Iceland celebrating 100 years since the establishment of the Icelandic National League of North America The tour is open to everyone and is organized and hosted by a fellow North American. This will be much more than a regular sight seeing tour of Iceland; we will discover and explore the land of our ancestors.

*email: **inlnatour@gmail.com**, contact Sunna at 1-701-200-1694, or check out www.kentlarus.is.*

Festivals Around the Country

The best way to find out is to check: **Lőgberg-Heimskringla**—they know everything — almost!
http://www.lh-inc.ca/

Sunday 1 July - Markerville, AB: Canada Day celebrations at the Markerville Creamery Museum, 10 am.

Wednesday 15 July - Blaine, MN: Minnesota celebrates ASA Soccer Cup Iceland Teams, Picnic at Lakeside Commons Park, 3020 Lakes Parkway, Blaine 55449. 4:30 pm. Meet and greet the many teams coming from Iceland to play in the International Soccer Tournament. Minnesota Icelanders hosting. Barbecue, swimming, games, canoes. Bring a salad, dessert, or snack to share.

25 to 29 July - Gimli, MB: Plan to attend the Gimli Film Festival. www.***gimlifilm.com*** (highly recommended –been there)

Saturday 28 July - Markerville, AB: the 6th **annual Taste of Markerville**. Join us to help and enjoy 'appy' hour and the long table dinner. Email ***tastemarkerville@gmail.com*** or call 403-728-3145 to get involved.

Friday 3 August - Gimli, MB: The annual **Icelandic Open** in support of *Lögberg-Heimskringla.* **Links at the Lake Golf Course**.12:00 pm. Shot Gun Start. To register in advance or participate in sponsorship: email: lh@lh-inc.ca . 204-284-5686. www.lh-inc.ca, http://www.lh-inc.ca/golf.

3 to 5 August - Mountain, ND: The Icelandic Communities Association of Northeast North Dakota. The 119th annual **Deuce of August celebration**. www.*thedeuce.org.*

3 to 6 August - Gimli, MB: Íslendingadagurinn, Icelandic Festival of Manitoba. This is the very largest of the celebrations and well worth attending. *https://www.icelandicfestival.com/*

Many of these festivals become Family Reunions.

COMING EVENTS

June 23/24, Sat/Sun	Midsummer Festival	Scandinavian Centre
Sept	Icelandic language Class (info in Sept newsletter & website)	Scandinavian Centre
Oct	Vinarterta Class (info in Sept newsletter & website)	Scandinavian Centre
Dec 2, Sunday a.m.	Bake & Craft Sale	Scandinavian Centre
Dec 2, Sunday p.m.	Children's Christmas Party	Scandinavian Centre

Information regarding the ICELANDIC CANADIAN CLUB OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SCHOLARSHIPS will be found attached to your email or as a separate flyer in your mailed newsletter. The attachment will include: SCHOLARSHIP FUND REGULATIONS
http://www.icelandicclubbc.ca/scholarships.html



How would you like to play golf while you are attending the Icelandic Festival during the August long weekend?

The **Annual Icelandic Open** In **Support of Lögberg-Heimskringla,** is on August 3, 2018 - **Links on the Lake Golf Course, Gimli, Manitoba.**

To register to play, and/or sponsor a hole, check out: ***https://www.lh-inc.ca/golf****.*
If you sponsor a hole, pick your Norse God and donate to the Golf Tournament.

Note: All Individual donations will receive a charitable receipt.
Call Audrey: 204-284-5686 or send your form by fax: 204-284-7099.
Register or sponsor today: pay by phone (VISA / MC accepted)

Icelandic Camp / Íslenskar Sumarbúðir—July 28 - August 3, 2018
Feel free to contact icelandiccamp@gmail.com for more details or call 1-204-485-5455,

For over 30 years Icelandic Camp has been bringing youth of Icelandic descent together to celebrate their shared heritage. Over eight days the campers are immersed in all things Icelandic, from language lessons to Viking crafts to writing their own saga, the campers develop a love of their Icelandic ancestry.

Located just two miles north of Gimli, Manitoba, Canada, along the banks of beautiful Lake Winnipeg, Icelandic Camp provides a safe place for campers to make new friends, visit with old ones and create memories that will last a lifetime.

If you would like to be a part of the Icelandic Camp there are many different ways to do so. You can promote the camp by spreading the word of our existence. There are still too many young campers that don't know of our camp yet! We are also excited to have visitors to the camp to share their knowledge, experience, and enthusiasm to get our campers pumped up! We also encourage monetary donations to help offset the costs allowing more kids to attend even if they do not have the financial means to do so.
Mail all registrations to:

Icelandic Camp, c/o Krista Narfason
PO Box 585, Gimli, MB ROC 1B0
Website: www.icelandiccamp.com/



THOR REIGNS !

<u>World's Strongest Man 2018</u>: Hafþór Júlíus Björnsson beats Brian Shaw as Game of Thrones' ***The Mountain*** finally gets hands on the coveted title. 6ft 9in Icelander - known for his portrayal of Gregor 'The Mountain' Clegane in the hit TV show - crushed the opposition as he lifted his first-ever WSM trophy.

The 29-year-old made light work of the competition in Manila, Philippines, storming to victory in his qualifying group before winning the Overhead Press and Loading Race in the finals. This saw Bjornsson finish top of the pile with 51.5 points – six-and-a-half more than closest competitor Mateusz Kieliszkowski and seven-and-a-half more than four-time champion Brian Shaw.

Bjornsson has been competing at World's Strongest Man since 2011, consistently finishing in the top three since 2012. The Icelandic giant had finished runner-up the previous two years. Bjornsson dominated his events and finished miles ahead of the rest.

But the signs were pointing to a Bjornsson victory regardless, with the beast already winning this year's *Arnold Strongman Classic* as well as *Europe's Strongest Man*. He has also dominated Iceland's Strongest Man competition since 2011, with the country regarded as the historical home of the world's most powerful athletes, and is the first Icelander to win WSM since **Magnus Ver Magnusson** in 1996. Bjornsson dominated his events and finished miles ahead of the rest.



World's Strongest Man 2018 Results

1. Hafthor Bjornsson (Iceland) – 51.5 points
2. Mateusz Kieliszkowski (Poland) – 45 points
3. Brian Shaw (USA) – 44 points
4. Martins Licis (USA) – 38.5 points
5. Jean-Francois Caron (Canada) – 35 points
6. Johan Els (South Africa) – 30 points
7. Matjaz Belsak (Slovenia) – 30 points
8. Konstantine Janashia (Georgia) – 22 points
9. Robert Oberst (USA) – 19.5 points
10. Zydrunas Savickas (Lithuania) – 9 points (withdrew after Event 4)



Debutants Iceland name 23-man squad

<u>www.fifa.com/worldcup/news</u>

Iceland head coach *Heimir Hallgrimsson* has named the country's first-ever World Cup squad, including many of the players that were a part of the team that made it to the quarter-finals of UEFA EURO 2016. One notable omission is Nantes forward and experienced national team player *Kolbeinn Sigthorsson*, who misses out as he has been struggling with a knee injury.

Iceland provisional squad

Goalkeepers: *Hannes Thor Halldorsson* (Randers, Denmark), *Runar Alex Runarsson* (Nordsjaelland, Denmark), *Frederik Schram* (Roskilde, Denmark);

Defenders: *Kari Arnason* (Aberdeen, Scotland), *Ari Freyr Skulason* (Lokeren, Belgium), *Birkir Mar Saevarsson* (Valur*), Sverrir Ingi Ingason* (Rostov, Russia), *Hordur Magnusson* (Bristol City, England), *Holmar Orn Eyjolfsson* (Levski Sofia, Bulgaria), *Ragnar Sigurdsson* (Rostov, Russia);

Midfielders: *Johann Berg Gudmundsson* (Burnley, England), *Birkir Bjarnason* (Aston Villa, England), *Arnor Ingvi Traustason* (Malmo, Sweden), *Emil Hallfredsson* (Udinese, Italy), *Gylfi Sigurdsson* (Everton, England), *Olafur Ingi Skulason* (Karabukspor, Turkey*), Rurik Gislason* (Sandhausen, Germany), *Samuel Fridjonsson* (Valerenga, Norway), *Aron Gunnarsson* (Cardiff City, Wales);

Forwards: *Alfred Finnbogason* (Augsburg, Germany), *Bjorn Bergmann Sigurdarson* (Rostov, Russia), *Jon Dadi Bodvarsson* (Reading, England), *Albert Gudmundsson* (PSV, Netherlands).

From *Iceland Review Online*–May 2018
Compiled by Iceland Review Editorial Staff

American-Style Diner Opens in Egilsstaðir

An old Shell gas station in the East Iceland town of Egilsstaðir has just been reopened as an American-style diner, mbl.is reports. With red and white vinyl booths, mint-green walls, and 50s music on the jukebox, *Skálinn Diner* aims to channel an iconic era in American history—as if it had been "clipped right out of Grease," explained manager Björn Berg Pálsson. But it also incorporates some distinctly Icelandic touches: you can, for instance, order plokkfiskur, a traditional Icelandic fish and potato stew, alongside your American-style pancakes, banana splits, and milkshakes. The diner, which is owned by the East Iceland-based *701 Hotels* chain, has only been open for two weeks, but Björn Berg says the reception has already been "far beyond our wildest dreams."

Coldest May in 100 Years

Meteorologist Trausti Jónsson says this May has been one of the coldest in 100 years. Trausti told **RÚV** that locals are correct in their feeling that this month has been unusually cold, rainy, and snowy. While temperatures during the first three weeks of May have been only slightly colder than average, there has been much more precipitation than is typical at this time of year in Iceland.

NASA to Prepare Mars Expedition in Iceland

A NASA research team is valuating conditions in Iceland for conducting research aimed to facilitate the exploration of other planets, **mbl.is** reports. Dr Jennifer Heldmann and Dr Darlene Lim of NASA delivered a lecture at Reykjavík University focused on space exploration with both manned expeditions and robotic spacecraft. The two are in Iceland on behalf of NASA to investigate whether the country could prove a good testing ground for space technology and equipment for expeditions to Mars and other planets. Depending on the outcome, research could start as early as next year.

Icelandair to Sell Hotel Chain

The Icelandair Group has decided to sell all of its hotels as well as "properties pertaining to these operations," ***mbl.is*** reports. "Our objective with this change is to sharpen further the focus on our core business, which is international aviation, where we intend to invest further in our Company's growth through digital solutions, increased automation and a new fleet."

Icelandair currently operates 13 hotels under the brands *Icelandair Hotels and Hotel Edda*, with locations in the towns of Akureyri, Flúðir, Hamar, Kirkjubæjarklaustur, Reykjavík, and Vík, as well as at Lake Mývatn and in the East Iceland county of Hérað.

In Reykjavík, their hotels include Reykjavik Natura, Reykjavik Marina, Hilton Reykjavik Nordica, Canopy Reykjavik | City Centre, Reykjavik Konsúlat Hótel, and Hótel Alda. All total, their hotels contain 1,937 rooms—867 in Reykjavík, 450 in the countryside, and 611 in Hotel Edda's summer-only hotels. The company currently has plans to open a new hotel on Austurvöllur square in downtown Reykjavík in 2019.

Vast Majority of Foreign Tourists Sample Local Food in Iceland

A new survey shows that the vast majority of travellers, or 90% of foreign visitors, try local food while visiting Iceland, **RÚV** reports. Right up there at the top is lamb. Skyr is right behind it." 45% eat local salmon and 41% drink Icelandic milk. Almost a third of tourists eat cod, beef, and Icelandic cheese, while under a fourth of visitors sample Icelandic pork. Fewer than a fourth are brave enough, however, to try harðfisk (dried fish), whale, hákarl (fermented shark), or horse.

Icelandic Voters Agree on Environment

Nearly 9 out of 10 Icelanders agree their municipal government should take a leadership role in environmental issues and consider the environment in their planning, **RÚV** reports. In an **online election poll** created by national broadcaster RÚV, 89% of respondents stated as much.

Respondents' opinion on sewage was similar across the country as well. Around the country, 87% of Icelanders agree municipalities should prioritize fixing sewage infrastructure, no matter the cost. One-third of respondents completely agreed with the statement while 10% disagreed to some extent.

Largest Cruise Ship Ever to Visit Iceland Docks in Akureyri

The largest cruise ship that has ever come to Iceland docked in *Akureyr*i, **RÚV** reports. The total number of passengers on board is equal to a third of the town's population.

The *MSC Meraviglia*, which weighs 167,000 tons, is one of 17 ships owned by cruise company *MSC Cruises* and accommodates 6,000 passengers from 53 different countries. In addition to sightseeing in Akureyri, the passengers will also go on tours around the *Eyjafjörður* fjord and the surrounding area, requiring dozens of tour buses for off-ship transportation. Passengers have also rented around 100 cars for self-guided day trips.

Cruises will be a regular part of life in North Iceland this summer: 143 ships will be coming to *Akureyri* over the coming months, while 36 cruises will travel to the island of *Grímsey* (pop. 61) and two ships will go to the island of *Hrísey* (pop. 151).

- Canadian indie band **Arcade Fire** to Play Iceland in August
- **Björk** Performs on TV for the First Time in 8 Years - live on *Jools Holland's* BBC show
- New music out from **Sigur Rós**, titled **Liminal** *list@mail.sigurros.com*

Icelandic Trivia from Twitter:

World War II is referred to as "the blessed war" by many Icelanders because the war led to the country's independence.

SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE

Website: www.scandinaviancentre.org (*for more details)*
E-mail: info@scandinaviancentre.org, Telephone: 604-294-2777

June 8 (Fri) 12 noon—Scandinavian Seniors Lunch, 55+, please call Tor 604-294-0749 or the office.

June 13 (Wed), 6-9pm—Scandinavian Business Club's Dinner, email secretary@nullsbc-bc.ca or call the SBC office 604-484-8238 or contact a current Board member. Non-members and members are welcomed to all our events! Also visit us at www.sbc-bc

June 14 (Thurs) 9 a.m.—Bridge Tournament,
$25 per person. **Contact**: Vivian or Helen 604 521-6714, All cash prizes.

June 22, Friday evening—**Ember Skies** (see page 1)

June 23/24, Saturday/Sunday**—Midsummer Festival** (see page 1)



Icelandic Online Club; email: ioc@inlofna.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/IcelandicOnlineClub

The 8-page newsletter is published at the beginning of each month, ten months of the year. A newsletter is not printed in July or August. Material is gratefully received by the 20th of each month.

Editor & Publisher:
Margrét Bjarnason Amirault, Tel: 604-688-9082
Distribution: Naomi Dyer, Heather Johnson, Nina Jobin
Membership: Norman Eyford
ICCBC Mail: 6540 Thomas Street
Burnaby, BC V5B 4P9

Website of the Icelandic Canadian Club of BC:
www.icelandicclubbc.ca

Email: *icc_of_bc@hotmail.com*
Facebook: **Facebook.com/icelandicclubbc**
Icelandic National League Website: *www.inlofna.org*
Icelandic Radio (6 stations): *www.xnet.is*
Morgunblaðið: *http://mbl.is*
Ströndin Internet Radio: *www.inlofna.org/SIR*

Honorary Consul General of Iceland for British Columbia,
Glenn Sigurdson, www.glennsigurdson.com

Hafþór Júlíus Björnsson



Icelandic Language CDs or Tapes

Get acquainted with the language or brush up on your pronunciation with lessons 1 & 2, each one hour long. Typed lessons are included so that you can learn to read Icelandic as well.

- Canadian Orders: *CDs, 2 lesson sets $30 CAD/ USD; tapes are also available. Postage & handling included.*
- US and Foreign Orders*: International money order only.*

Send your cheque or money order made out to:
Icelandic Canadian Club of B.C.
3776 Arbor Street, Burnaby, BC V5J 1T4
Tel: 604-433-6329
www.inlofna.org/ICCBC/Tape_Lessons.htm

Oakridge Lutheran Church

is engaging in a major redevelopment
The new worship space is: **Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1499 Laurier Ave.**, Vancouver.
Sunday worship time 1 pm.



Library & Genealogy

Books written by Icelanders in English or translation are available in the Scandinavian library upstairs. Books in Icelandic are located in the Iceland Room. Information regarding the Genealogy Centre can be obtained from Gerri McDonald, email: ***gerrimcdonald@shaw.ca***