

Selkirk Bruin Chapter's Activities for Summer and Fall.

In April we hold our Summardagurinn Fyrsti Concert or First Day of Summer Concert. This year's concert was held on April 21st. This was our 123rd Annual Celebration of The First Day of Summer in Selkirk. We hold it at The Selkirk Legion usually with 150 to 175 in attendance. We put on a concert, trying to keep it as old-fashioned as possible. We have our own choir which consists of our own members called The Kaffi Tima Choir. We usually sing about 9 or 10 songs in Icelandic with some of them with Icelandic and the English version also. We have other entertainers, trying to have young people as often as possible. We have been very fortunate to have The Icelandic Consul and his wife in attendance. We have a silent auction as well as a raffle. After the concert is over we serve coffee with Icelandic goodies. We serve rullapylsa and Icelandic Brown Bread, Ham on Brown Bread, Hangikjot on rye bread, Ponnukokurs, Kleinurs, Dainties, Vinatarta, Myostur, and Skyr. We are very fortunate to have members from surrounding INLNA clubs and people from all over in attendance. Summardagurinn Fyrsti is our main fundraiser of the year. We really enjoy putting on this concert. This event truly showcases our Icelandic language, culture and heritage. These things are so crucial in the promotion of our heritage.

In June we have our Summer picnic. This is a send-off of the year and its activities and the beginning of summer.

The end of July it is time for Icelandic Camp. Our Brad Hirst is the camp director. We usually have at least 4 of our members helping out in the kitchen. In previous years we have had 3 different cooks with a long tenure serving as cooks at the camp. We sponsor 2 or 3 campers each year. This camp is such an excellent way to get young people engaged in our Icelandic heritage and hopefully future members of our INLNA community and their heritage. Many campers return each year participating in all levels of camp. The bonds that this creates is life long. I have witnessed this many times.

The long weekend in August brings Islendingadagurinn to Gimli. Some members from our club volunteer at this event. The Icelandic Campers march in the parade.

In October Bruin Chapter hosts the birthday party for the residents of The Betel Home Foundation. This is a nursing home which originated with Icelandic roots. We honor the residents with October Birthdays. Our Kafi Tima Choir sings in Icelandic and English followed by recorded waltz music and where we try to get residents dancing and for those in wheelchairs we move their chairs around to the music giving them the feeling that they are dancing. We purchase their gifts and present them to them. We try to visit with them also. We help serve the coffee and cake. This year we had 13 birthday people.

October has a Fall Harvest Event at Betel Home in Selkirk which we try to attend. We also contribute baking for the tea. It's so important to have an Icelandic presence at this event in honor of this home and its residents.

We are currently entering a Christmas Tree on behalf of the The Selkirk Bruin Chapter at our annual Festival of Trees. We are busy making as many of the ornaments depicting things from Iceland and Icelandic Canadian culture. We hope to be able to decorate almost all of the tree with our homemade decorations. Our members are having so much fun making these items. The creative juices are flowing. We are hoping to obtain more exposure for our club by doing this.

December will bring our Jola Hatid or Christmas get together.