

LEIF EIRIKSSON ICELANDIC CLUB OF CALGARY NEWSLETTER



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LEIF EIRIKSSON ICELANDIC CLUB OF CALGARY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE



The 45th Annual General Meeting of the Leif Eiriksson Icelandic Club of Calgary will be held on Sunday, January 27th at the Scandinavian Centre, Viking Hall.

Doors open at: 5:00 pm

A "Pot Luck" dinner will take place from 5:30 to 6:30 PM, followed by the Annual General Meeting 7:00 - 8:00 PM.

Election: Only paid up members will be counted in the vote. Membership can be paid that evening. Presentations of Honourary Memberships will follow the meeting.

Please bring a food item for the pot luck table. The meat will be provided by the Club. If you have any questions about the AGM or the supper, you may contact

Lorie Dobson at (403) 912-6869
thedobsons@telus.net

MEMBERSHIP

With the exception of Honourary members, dues for the LEIC of Calgary expire December 31st. Thank you if you have already paid.

This membership is necessary to renew your subscription with the Lögberg-Heimskringla newspaper. If you have any questions regarding membership, please contact Afton Barabash at myownslideshow@gmail.com

or phone (587) 229-5971

Family memberships are \$30.00, and single memberships are 15.00.

Send your cheque or E-transfer to:-
Margaret Grisdale, LEIC Treasurer
430C – 15 Everstone Dr. SW,
Calgary, AB, T2Y 5B5



A library day for all ages, young and old! On Dec. 15 – 10:30 a.m. at the Scandinavian Centre, Karen Gummo will present her favourite Icelandic Solstice tales. We will have juice, coffee, and cookies for all. This is a good chance to look through the collection of books, DVDs, CDs, journals, and perhaps find some interesting holiday reading. or more information contact

Christine Stuart Smith, 403-244-1560

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – Lorie Dobson

Leif Eiriksson Icelandic club held their traditional Christmas Party at the Scan Center on November 24th. Seniors, adults and young children were welcomed into the decorated Viking Hall for an evening of Yuletide festivities. This party gives everyone the opportunity to get in the Christmas spirit and to experience the joyful, enthusiastic energy of the young children.

The Yuletide committee of **Margaret Grisdale, Nancy Tarr, Kristie Magnusson and Lorie Dobson** worked on planning the event and would like to give their thanks to the many people who helped and donated food to make this event special.

The evening started with the selling of Tombola tickets by several young girls which engages members and guests with the hope of winning one of the prizes which were carefully chosen and wrapped up by **Nancy Tarr**. Before dinner was served everyone had a chance to enjoy tasty Icelandic hors oeuvres' consisting of rúllupylsa, hangikjöt and herring served on brown bread made by **Len Dobson**. Thanks to **Lynn Brooks and Melanie Kolbeins** for their help with serving and setting out of the food.



MC Lorie Dobson got the evening's events started by giving a welcome from the board, introduction of the honorary members of the club and special guests. Special guests were **Consul General Þorður Bjarni Guðjonsson**, his wife

Jorunn Kristinsdóttir, Dr. Hallgrímur Benediktsson his wife **Guðrun Jörundsdóttir** and the 2018 **Fjallkona Joedy Englesby** from the Edmonton Icelandic Club.

Dr Hallgrímur Benediktsson introduced **Consul General Þorður Guðjonsson**. He gave an interesting talk about the ties between Iceland and western Icelanders. He mentioned the importance of keeping our heritage and customs alive through such events as our Yuletide Party.

Lorie Dobson introduced the **Fjallkona Joedy Englesby** and read a Bio of her Icelandic heritage. Joedy gave a welcome address, extended Christmas Greetings to members and guests. She then explained the meaning of the different parts of the Fjallkona

costume. Joedy looked splendid in the traditional Icelandic costume.

Grace was said by the MC and a delicious meal of roast lamb and turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetables, salad and pie were provided by **Alpine Catering**.

The formal part of the program began with the **Jólasveinar**, a presentation that depicts Icelandic Christmas custom. The children dressed in medieval dress wander through the hall with their particular artifacts to signify the character they were portraying. **Margret Grisdale** told the story of the mischievous 13 yuletide lads. Our thanks to **Kristie Magnusson** for all her work organizing the **Jólasveinar** and our storyteller **Margret Grisdale**.

The Christmas tree was then wheeled out into the center of the room to make space for dancing around the tree as we sang Christmas Carols. The pianist was **Aldis Gislason** with singing lead by **Edith Lewis, Keith Sveinson and Dr. Hallgrímur Benediktsson**. Right on queue with the singing of "Here comes Santa" he arrived to delight the children. Each child had the opportunity to sit on **Santa's** lap and receive a bag of goodies. We would like to thank our **Santa and his elves** which was the highlight of the evening for young and old. Thanks to **Hayley Carter and Mary Sampson** for looking after the Santa bags.

Thanks to our bar tenders **R.J. Murray and Len Dobson**.

Finally, a favourite part of the evening was the serving of the **Icelandic desserts, vínarterta and pönnukökur** to end the Yuletide party. While our desserts were served, the young members and guests enjoyed music from a playlist made by Lauren and Lindsay Usherwood for the dancing.

Thank you to all that attended and made this such a special event to end the year. My thanks to everyone that stayed to help clean up, your help was greatly appreciated.

Len and I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year. It has been a pleasure to be your president the past two years. I look forward to enjoying the many events our new president and the board will be planning for 2019.



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INL of NA's Icelandic Film Series 2018-2019

The Icelandic National League of North America's Icelandic Film Series is now offering the latest film to local Icelandic clubs through the generous contribution of Donald K. Johnson, whose funding secures the legal right to publicly exhibit the film.

This year's selection is the award-winning feature length documentary, **A Force In Nature**, which is an intimate portrait of the life and work of Icelandic sculptor, **Jóhann Eyfells**. One of the most innovative and important sculptors of the last half of the 20th century, Eyfells came to the **University of Central Florida** (formally known as Florida Technological University) in 1969 where he spent the next three decades teaching generations of students and creating some of the most groundbreaking artworks of the era.

For over thirty years, Jóhann Eyfells has been a legend in the Orlando art community who has made his incredible presence felt on the international art stage and in so doing made an indelible mark in the annals of Modern art history. Having been exhibited at the **Venice Biennale**, the **United Nations** and the **Olympics**, as well as being featured in the collections of illustrious museums like the **Tate** in London, Jóhann Eyfells artworks are recognized worldwide as some of the most significant aesthetic achievements of the last half century. Written and directed by Hayden de Maisoneuve Yates, this intimate portrait profiles the indomitable spirit of an artistic genius as he continues to create ambitious masterworks into the twilight years of his life. Over a decade in the making, this compassionate examination of a creative spirit provides a glimpse into the passion and pathos that motivates one of the most innovative talents of the era. At ninety four years of age, Jóhann Eyfells's work ethic and drive to indefatigably explore the mysteries of the universe through his sculptural practice is guaranteed to inspire anyone who would engage the artistic struggle to find meaning in the pursuit of aesthetic discovery.

Local clubs wishing to include the film in their club's activities can contact Rob Olason at robolason@aol.com for more details.

In the meantime, here is a "trailer" for the film: <https://vimeo.com/213382491>

Best wishes to all our shut-in members and those who have suffered an illness or other health issue during this holiday season.



2019 Events

Jan 28 th	Sunday AGM — Pot luck meal followed by the meeting
April 5	The Donald K. Johnson INL film at River Park Church
May 16 - 19	"A FORCE IN NATURE" 100 anniversary Convention – Winnipeg, Manitoba
May 23	Senior Luncheon
June 15	Markerville Picnic
Sept. 29	Fall Feast –Saturday
Nov. 10	Xmas Bazaar – Scan centre
Nov. 30	Yuletide Party

This **Parks Canada** designation and write up on the **Stephansson Monument** at Markerville is worth a look.

https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=905

SCANDINAVIAN CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

2018 was one of the most successful Christmas bazaars we have had in recent years. This is due mainly by selling vinarterta. We thank Lorie Dobson for organizing the baking workshop at the Scandinavian Centre to prepare the vinarterta for the bazaar and to the other people who held vinarterta bees in their homes. The baking workshop was enjoyed by all who attended and hope to have it there again next year.

Please note that the INL film "A Force of Nature" will be held at the River Park Church on April 5/18.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A VERY HAPPY
NEW YEAR FROM YOUR LEIC EXECUTIVE**
Gleðileg jól og farsælt komandi ár!

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LEIC YULETIDE 2018 PHOTO ALBUM

Photos by Michael Tarr



Len & Lorie Dobson, Guðrun Jörundsdóttir, Hallgrímur Benediktsson, Joedy Englesby and her husband, Jórunn Kristinsdóttir, Þorður Bjarni Guðjonsson



Santa Claus with Vice President Bob Baker



Top – Joedy Englesby, Fjallkaona, Nancy Tarr with her Tombola Elves
Leading singing Hallgrímur Benediktsson, Keith Sveinson and Edith Lewis

