

Ethnic Heritage Council

APRIL 2008

Tell Your Stories!

By *Burton E. "Bud" Bard*, EHC Founding President 1980-1983; EHC Board President 2005-2007

Next year, 2009, the Ethnic Heritage Council will celebrate its 30th Anniversary! Just imagine, 30 years of bringing our ethnic communities together to celebrate their heritage, to work to understand each other's cultures and to represent and present their cultures to the larger community. Although we all are Americans, the diversity that is represented in the Council's membership is a microcosm of the United States of America.

This organization has allowed me to become acquainted with peoples of many cultures, ways of life, and values. I have been privileged to know so many, with so many stories to tell and to have made so many friends since the founding of this organization. This relationship has encouraged me to delve into my own family's history and to find out some very interesting things about my father's connection with Alaska. Perhaps without my in-

volvement with the Ethnic Heritage Council I might not have been so motivated; as for family reasons it was difficult for me to find out this information. But I persevered and now have a great story to tell about the Klondike, my father's family seeking their fortune during the gold rush in 1898.

However, my goal here is not to tell my story, but to get you to tell yours. The many verbal stories that I have heard from so many friends over the years need to be told in writing. Everyone has a story to tell, but to some it may not be easy to tell, or to others, not worth telling. But I can assure you that your story will certainly have meaning to some one in your family, and to others. I recall the Nordic Heritage Museum put together a program like this a few years ago, and of course everyone is aware of the Densho Project, chronicling the experiences of the Japanese citizens at the start of World War II who were sent away

Continued on page 7, Stories



Ethnic Arts Connection II, March 10, 2008, Intiman Theatre. Representatives of managing organizations: City of Seattle Mayor's Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs, WSAC, 4Culture, Seattle Center, Festál, Northwest Folklife & EHC

Seattle Cherry Blossom & Japanese Cultural Festival - April 18-20

By *Mitsu Sundvall*

33rd Annual Seattle Cherry Blossom and Japanese Cultural Festival—April 18-20, 2008 - Friday-Sunday; 10-6pm; Opening Ceremony-Friday, 6pm. Public invited. Seattle Center - Free. 2008 Theme: Tohoku Region of Northern Japan and Nikkei Aviation Pioneers

Enburi! Come to the Seattle Cherry Blossom festival and be dazzled by Hachinohe Enburi, a spectacular dance group from Japan's northern Aomori prefecture. Enburi is an 800-year-old Japanese harvest dance with flute, drums and dancers wearing colorful horse-headed headdresses. The celebrated Japanese troupe will be welcomed by the Native-American youth dancers of the Duwamish First Nation Tribe, demonstrating the cross-cultural ties that bind our two countries.



One World Taiko - Photo by Maria Kesovija

Other highlights this year include rakugo, or comic storytelling; celebration of the first cross-Pacific flight from Misawa, Japan to Wenatchee, Washington by the Miss Veedol piloted by a Wenatchee native; and festival favorites such as the origami airplane contest, ikebana flower arrangements, martial arts exposition, the art of tea, booming taiko drums, fun activities for kids, and the ever popular Japanese snacks.

Continued on page 6, Cherry Blossom

Safeco Insurance
FESTÁL
 at SEATTLE CENTER
April 18-20
Seattle Cherry Blossom & Japanese Cultural Festival
FREE
 206-723-2003
www.seattlecenter.com
 206-684-7200

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EHC Co-Sponsors Cultural Events in April!

April 5: *Rainbow Bookfest - a Writer's Dream*

April 13: *A Bridge to Bosnia*

The Seattle Rainbow Bookfest - a Writer's Dream Presented by People of Color for People of Color

Hundreds of writers, readers, booksellers, publishers and not-yet published authors will attend the Sixth Seattle Rainbow Bookfest at Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center on **April 5, 2008**. FREE.

Featured speakers Dr. Quintard Taylor and Shawn Wong - both distinguished authors - will share their experiences and talk about the important role which writers of color play in the literary world.

A *writer's dream*, this day will feature a schedule chock full of workshops for published and "armchair writers" of all ages including a space for networking, readings, book signing; an introduction to Amazon's Kindle and self-publishing platform; writers workshops; panel discussions about the joys and challenges of English translation, new beginnings, what publishers seek from authors presented by Sasquatch Books; and a peek at tomorrow's literary talent - youth essay contest winners and

presentations.

"The goal of the Rainbow Bookfest remains the same... It is to bring authors of color together so everyone can benefit from their diverse stories and rich cultural heritages," says Assunta Ng, the Honorary Founding Chair of Rainbow Bookfest and publisher of the NW Asian Weekly.

"For the past five years this event has grown to become an all volunteer effort serving a larger audience in the Puget Sound. Our morning session will be devoted to exploring the future of this event and providing a safe harbor for authors of color to come together in support of each as they share their passions, dreams and concerns in an uncensored way to connect." adds Belinda Chin, Rainbow Bookfest Chair.

First Session: 8:30am - 12 noon - World Café: facilitated discussion to plan the future direction of Rainbow Bookfest; **Second Session:** 12:45pm -

5:30pm - Workshops, Panels, Readings and Featured Speakers. Lunch will be provided to all who pre-register for World Café - contact Belinda Chin to pre-register; Belinda.chin@comcast.net; Phone: 206-684-5999.

Langston Hughes performing Arts Center, 104 17th Ave S., Seattle, WA 9 8 1 4 4 . Visit : www.rainbowbookfest.org

About Seattle Rainbow Bookfest

The Seattle Rainbow Bookfest is the first organized effort in the United States to bring authors of color together under one roof. Authors of color have many voices, faces and history in America, yet they continue to struggle to be heard and be recognized. Their writing reflects a diversity and wealth of experiences that broaden and deepen our understanding of the human condition. Seattle Rainbow Bookfest creates a crossroad

Continued on page 7, Bookfest

A Bridge To Bosnia - A Musical Journey
Co-sponsored by The Islamic Community of Bosniaks of Washington and Temple Beth Am

**Sunday, April 13th
- 3 P.M. -**

Temple Beth Am
2632 NE 80th
Seattle 98115

Featured Performers
Mary Sherhart of Sevdah North America
Peter Lippman on Saz
Ekrem Pilic with Elvir Becic
The Klezkids with Bottle Dancers
Cambialaria Ensemble
Bosnian Folklore Ensemble Sevdah
Sankofa Women's Chorus
The Rolling Steins
Dave and the Dalmatians

visit www.bridgetobosnia.com for tickets and information
or call 206-789-7643 Tickets also available at the door.

Suggested tax-deductible donation:
\$10 Adults \$5 Children and Seniors \$20 Families

**All proceeds from this concert go to SEEDS
for Bosnia Initiatives for Local Development**

Learn more about SEEDS at www.seeds.org

Funded in part by a grant from the
Mayor's Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs,
City of Seattle

PHOTOS: Courtesy of Steve Horn and Sevdah

A Bridge to Bosnia: A Musical Journey

On Sunday, April 13th at 3 P.M., Temple Beth Am and the Islamic Community of Bosniaks of Washington, will co-sponsor a multi-cultural concert featuring professional performers from the Bosnian, Jewish, and African-American communities. The Mayor's Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs, and the Ethnic Heritage Council are sponsors as well. Concert at Temple Beth Am, 2632 NE 80th St., Seattle 98115.

Performers include: vocalist Mary Sherhart of Sevdah North America, Peter Lippman, player of saz and other instruments, The Klezkids with Bottle Dancers, vocalist Ekrem Pilic, accordionist Elvir Becic, the Bosnian Folklore Ensemble Sevdah, Cambialaria Women's Chorus, Sankofa, Dave and the Dalmatians, and The Rolling Steins. Bosnian and Jewish pastries will be available.

We promise you a beautiful and lively concert. Suggested donation is \$10 for adults, \$5 for seniors and children, and \$20 per family. All proceeds go to SEEDS, the U.S. agency for Bosnia Initiatives for Local Development. Visit: www.bridgetobosnia.com or call 206-789-7643.



The Baltic Community in Photos and Stories

By Amanda Swain

The University of Washington Libraries Special Collections recently completed the first part of an exhibit documenting the Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian communities in King County. Each of the 19 exhibit pieces features a current portrait by photographer Mary Randlett, along with a personal photo and a quote from an individual or couple (6 Estonians, 6 Latvians and 7 Lithuanians). The individuals included in the exhibit were selected by the Seattle Estonian Society, the Latvian Association of the State of Washington and the Lithuanian-American Community Inc. The exhibit will be on display at the David Martin Gallery in Seattle on Sunday, May 18, 3-7p.m. There will be a reception and a brief program.

In King County, individuals who immigrated from Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania—many as adults or children immediately following World War II—and their families have contributed to the cultural, business and civic life of King County. As Americans, they have also preserved their cultures through community associations, musical and dance groups, and family traditions. This exhibition tells the story of nineteen members of the Baltic community in King County through current portraits by award-winning Northwest photographer Mary Randlett, photographs from their personal collections, and their own words. The nineteen individuals represent those who immigrated before and after them and those who were born in the United States of Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian heritage. Through their personal statements in the accompanying booklet, they tell their own stories about life in King County and how they have preserved their identity as Americans and as Estonians, Latvians and Lithuanians.

Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania are located on the eastern edge of the Baltic Sea in northern Europe. These three countries achieved their independence from the Russian empire in 1918 at the end of World War I. After two decades of independence, they were forcibly incorporated into the Soviet Union in 1940. Approximately

200,000 people were deported to Siberia by the Soviet Union immediately before and after World War II. Occupied by Nazi Germany during World War II, the countries were reoccupied by the Soviet Union in 1940 and spent the next fifty years as Soviet republics.



Rimvydas Miksys,
Lithuanian
Photo by Mary Randlett

With Mikhail Gorbachev's policies of glasnost and perestroika in the late 1980s, popular front movements were formed in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. These movements quickly became independence movements that contributed to the demise of the Soviet Union in 1991. Independent again, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania are now democratic countries and members of the European Union.

The exhibit was initiated by Nicolette Bromberg, Visual Materials Curator for UW Libraries Special Collections. In September 2003, Nicolette attended a conference in Helsinki and took the opportunity to add on a tour of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. She had traveled and lived in Eastern Europe and wanted to see the Baltic countries. Nicolette describes the trip as "Wonderful!" She and her sister, who traveled with her, thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Baltic countries. After visiting the Latvian Photography Museum, she started to think about doing a project related to the Baltic countries. Nicolette believes in "proactive collecting" - working with communities to document them through photography and archival collections. When she returned to Seattle, Nicolette talked to Michael Biggins, head of the Slavic and East European Studies section of the UW Libraries, and Guntis Smidchens, Baltic Studies professor, who arranged a meeting with representatives from the three local community organizations.

Nicolette believes that it is important

to document and recognize communities like the Baltic-American communities, which may not be large but are active. She was excited to meet so many interesting people through the project. More importantly, she sees the exhibit as an opportunity to let people know about the Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian communities and how they have contributed to our wider King County community. Nicolette hopes that the exhibit will encourage these and other ethnic communities to document themselves and to save their archives. She asked photographer Mary Randlett, an award-winning Northwest photographer, to take portraits for the exhibit. Mary's work ranges from landscape and architecture to portraits of Northwest artists and writers. Forty museums, including the Smithsonian, the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Seattle Art Museum, have Mary's photos in their permanent collections.

Nicolette and project coordinator Amanda Swain are currently raising funds to expand the project. An additional eleven participants will be photographed in late spring. The full exhibit will feature thirty members of the Baltic community. Their long-term goals include turning the exhibition into a book. They also hope to travel the exhibit to Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia in the future. The project was funded by a grant from 4Culture, King County's cultural services agency, and a gift from Ms. Nancy Nordhoff. Additional funding for the project came from the UW Baltic Studies Program, the UW Libraries Slavic and East European Studies Section, and the Lithuanian-American Community Inc. (Seattle). The full exhibit of 19 framed pieces is available for loan. A large-format hardbound book of the exhibit is available for classroom use. For more information, contact Amanda Swain at ajswain@u.washington.edu.



Tiina Oviir, Estonian
Photo by Mary Randlett

Photos copyright University of Washington Libraries.



For more April calendar listings visit EHC website:
www.ethnicheritagecouncil.org
Click on "Programs" then "Newsletter"

~ April 2008 ~

Lorenzo Ghiberti's Renaissance Masterpiece at SAM! Three stunning panels from Lorenzo Ghiberti's Gates of Paradise, one of the most celebrated works of the Italian Renaissance, will be on view at SAM Downtown. This exhibition marks the first time the gilded bronze panels have traveled to the United States since their creation over 550 years ago. **Through April 6.** Call: 206.654.3100; visit: www.seattleartmuseum.org.

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Exhibit at MOHAI in the theater lobby. Washington State Jewish Historical Society, Seattle Jewish Film Festival and MOHAI present this wonderful exhibit and to honor the SJFF turning '13'. Runs the entire month of April. MOHAI. Call: 206-774-2277; email: assistant@wsjhs.org.

According to Coyote - In Native American lore, Coyote, the trickster, is a character full of fun and rich with meaning. In the tradition of great legends that have been passed from people to people and generation to generation, we bring you the tales that helped shape the world around us. **Through May 11.** Seattle Children's Theatre, Seattle Center. Call: 206-441-3322; www.sct.org.

Peoples of the Plateau: The Indian Photographs of Lee Moorhouse, 1891 - 1915 & Reflections of Home. **Through June 8.** Burke Museum. Call: 206-543-5590; www.burkemuseum.org.

Tuesday, 1st

Events for Children at the Nordic Heritage Museum—Nordic Stories - First Tuesday of each month April 1 from 10am to 11am children can listen to the Norwegian folktale Boots and his Brothers by Eric A. Kimmel, and make a fun craft project to take home. Call: 206-789-5707; visit: www.nordicmuseum.org.

UW World Series—Simon Trpceski, Pianist. 7:15 pm, Pre-show talk; concert, 8pm, Meany Hall, UW. Call: 206-543-4880; uwworldseries.org.

Wednesday, 2nd

Anoushka Shankar—Daughter of legendary sitar maestro, Ravi Shankar. **April 2-3.** 7:30 pm, Kirkland Performance Center. Call: 425-893-9900; visit: www.kpcenter.org.

Thursday, 3rd

13th Annual Bar Mitzvah Bash—Seattle Jewish Film Festival, Cinerama - Museum of History & Industry. SJFF **April 3-13.** Call: 1-800-838-3006; tickets: www.brownpapertickets.com.

A Nordic Spring—Nordic springtime celebration! Children can make fun springtime crafts from the Nordic countries. 10am-12noon, NHM. Call: 206-789-5707; visit: www.nordicmuseum.org.

Friday, 4th

Skandia Folkdance Society First Friday Dance. Larry Reinert and Karlyn Tomta teach Telegangar from 7:30-8:30. At 8:30, Bill Boyd will play hardingfele, followed by Mädd Fiddlu and later the trio of Anna, Ingrid, and Ian. Cedar Valley Grange. Call: 206-784-7470; www.skandia-folkdance.org.

Saturday, 5th

Spring Ho'olaule'a—20th Semi-Annual Hawaiian Culture Celebration. 11am-9pm, Chief Leschi School, Puyallup, WA. Vendor: 253-874-5875; Entertainment, call: 253-475-8381; www.LikahiOhanaNW.com.

Book Signing & Presentation - The Old Rules Don't Apply: How Norwegian Immigrants See America in the Plays of Marcus Thrane. One of the earliest ethnic theaters in America was the Norwegian Theater of Marcus Thrane, established in Chicago in 1866. The book, "Selected Plays of Marcus Thrane", translation and introduction by Terje I. Leiren was published jointly by the Norwegian-American Historical Association and the University of Washington Press. FREE. 2pm, NHM. Call: 206-789-5707.

The 6th Annual Rainbow Bookfest Multicultural Fair & Celebration of Authors of Color. Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center. Call: 206-684-5999; www.rainbowbookfest.com. **See story page 2.**

The Fourth Corner Folkdance Band & Friends, from both Seattle & Vancouver. Bellingham Folk Dancers, 8-11 pm, \$10. Fairhaven Library, 1117 - 12th St., Bellingham.

Sunday, 6th

Tartan Day at the State Capitol Rotunda in Olympia. 1-1:30pm, The Olympia Highlanders Pipe Band will play; 2:30 the McPherson School of Dance; 2:45 the Reading of the Proclamation; 2:55 march thru the Capitol grounds, led by the pipe band. We would like as many Scots as possible to show up for this. www.tartanday-wa.org/. **See story page 6.**

Swedish Pancake Breakfast—Music for listening and dancing. Swedish Cultural Center. 8am-12:30pm. Call: 206-283-1090.

Monday, 7th

Scottish Country Dancing - Caledonian and St Andrew's Society—The Caledonians enjoy Scottish country dancing on Mondays, 7-9pm, Phinney Neighborhood Center, Rm 31. Guests welcome to attend. <http://www.caledonians.com/id7.html>.

Tuesday, 8th

Sophie Milman—Russian Born International Jazz Vocalist. **April 8-9.** Jazz Alley. Call: 206-441-9729; visit: www.jazzalley.com.

Thursday, 10th

Nordic Art: More Than Munch? A Lecture and Slideshow by Margaret Davidson. The art of Scandinavia is wonderful and magical, based as it is on myth, legend, tradition, and poetry. Slideshow and presentation which will show you examples of this wonderful work, from the folk art, through 19th century painting and into the contemporary work. 7pm, Swedish Cultural Center. Call: 206-283-1090.

Friday, 11th

The Caledonian and St. Andrew's Society monthly gathering - Scottish entertainment, tea, and raffle. 7:30, Lake City Presbyterian Church. Call: 206-523-2618; monet7963@hotmail.com; www.caledonians.com.

Seeds of Compassion - Seattle Welcomes the Dalai Lama. "Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them humanity cannot survive." - His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama. An unprecedented gathering to engage the hearts and minds of our community by highlighting the vision, science, and programs of early social, emotional, and cognitive learning. Anchored by the deep wisdom of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, this community-focused event will celebrate and explore the relationships, programs and tools that nurture and empower children, families and communities to be compassionate members of society. Each of the five days will provide parents, educators, business and community leaders with an opportunity to better understand the real benefits of compassion, and concrete steps on how to bring compassion into their lives. **April 11-15** Various events and locations. Call: 877-49-SEEDS (7337); Visit: www.seedsofcompassion.org.

**Saturday, 12th**

3rd Annual Genealogy Workshop with Lodge Historian Luci Baker-Johnson. Info on Bygdebok - what they are and the 'gold mine' of information they contain; Digitalarkvet - The Digital Archives. 9:30am-12noon, Leif Erikson Hall. Email: ljbaker2@earthlink.net.

Heritage Fair. Sponsored by the South King County Genealogical Society, LDS Church, Federal Way. Call: 425-235-8076; www.skcs.org.

Concert with Anna Peller & Viktor Olah's Gypsy Band. Visit: www.hungarianamerican.org.; email: info@hungarianamerican.org.

Georgia's Greek Restaurant—Live Music: 7pm til the music and dancing stop! Balkanarama - Balkan music. Call: 206-783-1228.

Sunday, 13th

A Bridge to Bosnia - A Musical Journey. 3pm, Temple Beth Am, Seattle. Call: 206-789-7643; visit: www.bridgetobosnia.com. See story page 2.

Mostly Nordic Concert: Denmark - The Darkwood Consort. Ticket includes smorgasbord. 4pm, NHM. Call: 206-789-5707; www.nordicmuseum.org.

Wednesday, 16th

Pavel Haas Quartet, from Prague. Part of the International Chamber Music Series. 8pm, Meany Hall, UW Campus. Call: 206-543-4880; visit: uwworldseries.org.

Thursday, 17th

Celtic Woman has been winning over audiences worldwide with their heavenly renditions of Irish standards, classical favorites and contemporary hits. Their popularity in the U.S. is thanks in part to their first PBS special in March 2005, which has aired over 3400 times on 316 PBS stations to date. Since then, they've been seen by millions on subsequent PBS specials, the blockbuster "Celtic Woman - A New Journey," filmed live from Slane Castle in Ireland. **April 17-20.** Call: 206-292-ARTS; Visit: www.theparamount.com.

Friday, 18th

Annual North Coast Folk Music Festival, Ocean Shores Convention Center & Galway Bay Pub. **April 18-19.** Call: 888-48-BEACH.

Orkestar RTW plays for a Balkan dance evening sponsored by the Greenlake Folkdancers, 8:30-11:30pm, 7220 Woodlawn Ave. NE., Seattle. Call: 425-883-0332; www.ratthenitza.com

Debashish Bhattacharya, Master Hindustani Slide Guitarist. 8pm, Kirkland Performance Center. Call: 425-893-9900; www.kpcenter.org

59th Annual Pacific NW Danish Brotherhood & Sisterhood Convention, La Quinta Inn, Tacoma. **April 18-20.** email4egon@comcast.net.

Skandia Folkdance Society Third Friday Dance. -Art Hare and Pat Pi teach Sväv and Schottis från Oviken at 7:30; Music at 8:30 by Skandia Kapell. Cedar Valley Grange, Lynnwood. Call: 206-784-7470; www.skandia-folkdance.org.

(Seabeck) Springdans NW. **April 18-21.** Call: 206-789-2678; www.skandia-folkdance.org

Seattle Cherry Blossom & Japanese Cultural Festival at Seattle Center. - **April 18-20.** Call: 206-723-2003; 206-684-7200; See story page 1.

Saturday, 19th

2nd Annual Norway Day sponsored by the Sons and Daughters of Norway in Olympia 11 am - 5:30 pm, Thurston County Fairgrounds, Expo Center, 3054 Carpenter Rd. SE, Olympia, WA \$2 admission, 12 & under free when accompanied by an adult

Journey to the East: Dances of the Near and Far East. 8pm, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle. Call: 206-697-0363; www.brownpapertickets.com; http://home.att.net/~sabura/journeyeast.htm

Oran nan Car premier CD release concert, UW Ethnic Cultural Theatre. Www.caledonians.com.

Balkan Cabaret to play for **Skagit-Anacortes Folkdancers 30th Anniversary party!** International theme & potluck. Please wear a costume and help us celebrate. Bay View Civic Hall, C St., Bay View, WA. Call: 360-391-0601.

Rummage Sale at Norse Home Rent a table for \$25. 9am-3pm. Call: 206-781-7400.

Wednesday, 23rd

Divine Performing Arts - Chinese Spectacular - A Cultural Renaissance This captivating celebration combines over 5,000 years of ancient Chinese culture through song and dance that will amaze viewers of all ages. The beauty of this show will be captured not only through the elaborate costumes but through the captivating blend of over sixty performers. **April 23-24.** Paramount Theatre, Seattle. Call: 206-467-5510; Tickets: www.ticketmaster.com; Information, visit: theparamount.com; www.bestchineseshows.com.

Friday, 25th

Bala Music & Dance performed by Anirhudda Knight & Ensemble. 8pm, Kirkland Performance Center. Call: 425-893-9900; www.kpcenter.org.

Don Giovanni presented by **NW Puppet Center.** **April 25-May 4.** Call: 206-523-2579; www.nwpuppet.org.

Saturday, 26th

Norwegian Pancake breakfast hosted by the Leif Erikson Lodge Scholarship Committee. Thin Norwegian pancakes with lingonberries, ham, scrambled eggs, juice, and the ever full cup of coffee. Richard Svensson will entertain on his accordion. Announcements of the LEL scholarship recipients at Noon. 9:30am-12noon. Crafts for all. Proceeds go to the Leif Erikson Lodge Scholarship Fund.

Tacoma Norwegian Heritage Festival. 11 am to 3 pm. PLU. Free. Call: 253-535-7322.

Plateau Native Arts Celebration—Celebrate a full day of Native art demos & storytelling from the Columbia Plateau region! 10am-4pm, The Burke Museum. Call: 206-543-5590; www.burkemuseum.org

Sunday, 27th

Jazz Concert and Swedish Pancake Jazz Brunch - Northwest jazz artists who have banded together for a very special concert and jazz brunch. Visit: www.ballardjazzfestival.com. 11am-2pm, NHM. **Ballard Jazz Festival, April 25-27, 7:30pm.** Call: 206-789-5707; www.nordicmuseum.org.

Lucidarium Family Concert—One of Italy's premier early music ensembles. "La Istoria de Purim" devoted to the music & poetry of the Jews in Renaissance Italy. 1pm, Town Hall. Call: 206-325-7066; www.earlymusicguild.org.

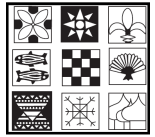
Buffet dinner followed by dancing at 6PM to the music of Ingrid Hamberg, Anna Abraham and Richard Svensson. RSVP by April 23. Call: 206-783-1274. Fundraiser to help Ingrid study in Norway. 5pm. Call: 206-856-6142.

Monday, 28th

2008 WA Cultural Congress, Art Every Day. Sleeping Lady Mountain Retreat, Leavenworth, WA **April 28-30.** Call: 2 0 6 - 4 4 8 - 1 9 0 9 ; www.wsartsalliance.com.

~ MORE ~

Multicultural Events at KCLS Programs for Children, Families and Adults. Visit: www.kcls.org.



Gung Haggis Fat Choy II Report 2008

By Kimberly Anne Cambern



On February 24th, President Bill McFadden (photo left) of the Caledonian & St. Andrew's Society of Seattle produced the second annual Gung Haggis Fat Choy™ celebration at the Ocean City Restaurant in Seattle's International District.

Again for the second year Todd Wong emcee'd the Seattle event. This past January, Todd Wong (aka Toddish MacWong), a fifth generation Chinese Canadian who had conceived this unique Chinese-Scottish cross cultural event some ten years ago, completed his very successful tenth annual Gung Haggis Fat Choy in Vancouver, BC. Todd was joined by fellow Vancouverite and bagpiper/musician, Joe McDonald, to perform their signa-



ture "Haggis Rap". This second annual gathering celebrated the Year of the Rat as well as Robert Burns' (Rabbie's) 249th birthday.

Over 320 attendees (a full house) enjoyed our "Address Tae the Haggis" RAP observance, followed with a sumptuous eight-course Chinese dinner and a variety of Chinese and Scottish entertainment. The audience was thrilled with performances of members of the Chinese Youth Orchestra and the Northwest Junior Pipe Band. Master David Leong's Martial Arts and Lion Dance School showed off their martial arts skills and performed the famous Chinese "Lion Dance". Later in the evening the Melody Dance Group showed the softer side of Chinese dance with the adorable girls of Melody Xie's dance studio performing a variety of traditional Chinese dances. Besides the refreshing performances of some of our youngest entertainers, the audience also enjoyed the superb Cape Breton fiddling of Susan Burke, who was ably accompanied by the pipes of Don Scobie and the drum work of Ben Rudd. Local authoress Lensey Nami-

oka presented an entertaining reading from her book *Half and Half*, reminiscences of her family growing up biculturally (Asian/Scottish). The audience also enjoyed Scottish balladeer, Red McWilliams, "America's Celt", with his guitar and singing of Scottish ballads.

The hat was passed again this year in support of The NW Junior Pipe Band, scheduled to compete in the International Pipe Band Competition in Scotland this summer. They will be the first youth pipe band of Washington to attend a competition since 1969. They are looking for assistance in raising funds so every single band member can attend. It will be a trip of a lifetime for these young musicians! Please visit: www.nwjpb.org.

Planning is well underway for next year's third annual Gung Haggis Fat Choy with another wonderful evening of food, entertainment, and friendship. An invitation is extended to all and we are looking forward to another successful event. Seating is limited and early table reservations are highly recommended.

Visit: www.caledonians.com; email: billmcfadden@mindspring.com.

National Tartan Day - April 6th

By Kimberly Anne Cambern



Calling All Scots!

On April 6 Tartan Day, all Scots are called to congregate at the state capitol rotunda in Olympia - we will meet at the rotunda at 1:00; 1:30 the Olympia Highlanders Pipe Band will play; 2:30 the McPherson School of Dance, 2:45 the Reading of the Proclamation, 2:55 march through the Capitol grounds, led by the pipe band. We would like as many Scots as possible to show up for this. The National Tartan Day Society provides Scottish heritage information, sponsors the annual Washington State Scottish Heritage Festival, promotes National Tartan Day, USA, and Scottish culture.

What is Tartan Day? In March 1998, the United States Senate passed a resolution (*Senate Resolution 155*) confirming the 6th of April as National Tartan Day:

This date was chosen because it marks the anniversary of the Declaration of Arbroath, which was signed on 6 April 1320. In effect, this was Scot-

land's Declaration of Independence, which Robert the Bruce and his followers sent to Pope John XXII, asserting their right to be free of the "yoke of English domination." It ended with the memorable sentiment: *"For it is not for glory, riches or honour that we fight, but for freedom alone, that which no man of worth yields up, save with his life."*

The Arbroath document holds a particular resonance for all Americans, since our own Declaration of Independence was modeled on it. It is significant, too, that nearly half of the signatories on the American declaration had Scottish roots while, out of the 13 original United States, 9 had governors with Scottish ancestry.

In 1999, a year after the US Senate resolution, a handful of Scots organized the first Tartan Day celebration in Washington State. It was a small event held at Madigan Army Medical Center near Tacoma. Since then the annual Tartan Day celebration has grown, with increasing public attendance and larger numbers of clan societies and vendors participating.

So, come and join the other 9.2 million Americans of Scots or Scots-Irish ancestry and join us for Tartan Day at the Rotunda in Olympia. See you there! For more information, visit: www.tartanday-wa.org.

Cherry Blossom, Continued from page 1

A unique festival feature this year is the Sake Sampling Party on Saturday and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. in Seattle Center Pavilion A. In Japan when cherry trees bloom it's time to celebrate with saké! Come sample award-winning rice wines from the Tohoku region of Northern Japan and expand your wine-tasting experience. Admission \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door; over 21 only.

The Festival was founded in appreciation of the gift of 1,000 cherry trees to the City of Seattle by Prime Minister Takeo Miki on behalf of the Japanese government in commemoration of the nation's bicentennial. At Seattle Center we showcase quality Japanese traditional and contemporary culture focusing on arts, folk traditions, technology presented by native and non-native practitioners, with the generous resources of governmental, private, corporate and educational institutions.



Stories, Continued from page 1
to concentration camps.

In researching my father's story, I found loose pages in a small envelope written in pencil by my 18 year old grandmother telling of her and her three sisters' trip from Chicago to Seattle and then by steamer to Skagway, Alaska and then hiking over Chilcoot Pass on down the Yukon River to Dawson in 1898. It turns out that of the 30,000 some gold seekers that hiked over Chilcoot Pass, 5 of them were my relatives! I was delighted to find this

information and the Museum in Nome, Alaska was delighted to receive the original copy from me as a donation to their history, as that 18 year old lady became the wife of my grandfather, Nome's third Mayor. Coincidentally in researching this story I found out that my grandmother and her sisters were born in Sweden.

Relating this vignette from my past is an opportunity for me to encourage you to tell yours. The Ethnic Heritage Council has contacts with most of the ethnic community in this area. You, as

the reader of this newsletter, either belong to a member ethnic organization of the Council's or know of someone who is. There will be an opportunity in the next year or two to write your story, or your family's story to share with others. As I leave the current presidency of the Council I would like to offer to assist in the development of this program as a legacy and as an opportunity to celebrate the Ethnic Heritage Council's 30th Anniversary. Please watch for more details to come.

Bookfest, Continued from page 2

for people of color and their allies to "normalize" the voices of color as equal and important voices in the United States.

The mission of the Seattle Rainbow Bookfest is to engage the community in a festive event that celebrates authors of color.

The goals are to provide a venue for dialogue between authors, readers, and publishers; to provide resources and recognition for authors of color; to showcase and support works by authors of color; and to entertain readers from both mainstream and minority communities by providing diverse perspectives and rich cultural experiences.

Participating Authors: Quintard Taylor, Shawn Wong, Ken Mochizuki, Lensey Namioka, Bharti Kirchner, Flor Fernandez Barrios, Nisi Shawl, Antonio Hopson, Fred Su, Carletta Carrington Wilson, Maria de Lourdes Victoria Muguira, Juan Carlos Reyes, Chikodi Anunobi, Stephen Ling, Sasha Su-Ling Welland

Generous Community Supporters and Sponsors: City of Seattle: Arts & Cultural Affairs, Department of Neighborhoods, Parks & Recreation, Humanities Washington, Ethnic Heritage Council, Northwest Asian Weekly, Hedgebrook, Pacific Northwest Writers Association, Sasquatch Books.

Safeco Insurance Festál

Seattle Center's Safeco Insurance Festál is a year-long series of FREE cultural events that honors the richness and diversity of the Pacific Northwest. Safeco Insurance Festál plays a vital part of Seattle Center's efforts to connect our dynamic and varied community.

This collection of events is produced by Seattle Center and individual cultural organizations, and is presented with generous support from Safeco Insurance, Western Washington Toyota Dealers, Wells Fargo Verizon Wireless and KUOW 94.9 FM. Additional support is provided by The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, The Boeing Company, Seattle Center Fund, the City of Seattle.

Visit: <http://www.seattlecenter.com/events/festivals/festal/>



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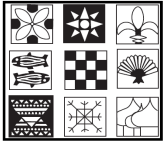
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The Ethnic Heritage Council is dedicated to preserving the unique mix of cultural traditions that enrich our Northwest communities. Annually, the Council produces several ethnic festivals, and a public naturalization ceremony on July 4th. EHC publishes CONTACT: A Directory of Ethnic and Cultural Resources in Washington State, and operates a referral service for the community. **The Newsletter** is a publication of the Ethnic Heritage Council of the Pacific Northwest. Submission deadline for the May 2008 edition is April 20th. Please send submission materials, to the EHC office via mail, fax: 206-443-1408; or email text items as attached word document: ehc@seattle.gov. Contact EHC with any questions at: 206-443-1410. Visit our website at: www.ethnicheritagecouncil.org.



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The Ethnic Heritage Council is dedicated to preserving the unique mix of cultural traditions that enrich our Northwest communities.

JOIN US!

Become a member of the Ethnic Heritage Council. Join us in our 28th year of celebrating community. Your annual membership helps support the events, programs and services of the Council. Any additional contribution you give is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support!

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EHC Members receive: Subscription to EHC Newsletter; Advance notice of up-coming events; Event consultation.

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