Welcome
to the
Twelfth Annual Nordic Spirit Symposium

The Nordic Explorers
Voyages, Expeditions and Discoveries

A unique lecture/performance program presented by the Scandinavian American Cultural and Historical Foundation and California Lutheran University made possible through a generous grant from the Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation with additional support from the Royal Norwegian Consulate General in San Francisco, the Consulate General of Finland in Los Angeles and the Norway House Foundation

FEBRUARY 11 & 12, 2011
SCANDINAVIAN AMERICAN CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL FOUNDATION
CALIFORNIA LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY
THOUSAND OAKS, CALIFORNIA
THE NORDIC EXPLORERS
VOYAGES, EXPEDITIONS AND DISCOVERIES

Friday February 11, 2011  Samuelson Chapel

7:00 PM   Opening
7:05 PM   Donald Ryan, “The Adventurous Life of Thor Heyerdahl”
8:05 PM   Break
9:25 PM   Closing

Saturday February 12, 2011  Preus-Brandt Forum

9:00 AM   Opening
9:05 AM   Carol Urness, “Vitus Bering: Hero, Wimp or Somewhere In between”
10:05 AM  Break
10:30 AM  Markku Løytønen, “A. E. Nordenskiöld: Explorer and Gentleman”
11:30 AM  Larry Johnson, “Leroy Anderson, Composer”
          Hall of Fame Induction
12:00 PM  Lunch  Lundring Events Center (for holders of luncheon tickets)
1:15 PM   Tommy Diickey, “Roald Amundsen: Pole to Pole Norwegian Explorer Extraordinaire”
2:15 PM   Liv Arnesen, “In Headwind and Tailwind: Stories from Expeditions in Antarctica and the Arctic”
3:15 PM   Break
3:45 PM   Celia Linde, “Nordic Sound, Latin Flavor”
4:45 PM   Closing

Scandinavian Center. 26 Faculty Road

5:30 PM   Social

Lundring Events Center, CLU

7:00 PM   Dinner and Entertainment
          LeRoy Anderson, accordion
Nordic Spirit Symposium Series History

February 2000  The Vikings: Westward Exploration, Expansion and Settlement
February 2001  The Vikings: Eastern Traders, Merchants, Empire Builders and Royal Guards
February 2002  Scandinavian Immigrants: Builders of Nations
February 2003  The Northern Front, Scandinavia in World War 2: Neutrality, Occupation and Resistance
February 2004  The Northern Front, Scandinavia in World War 2, Part 2
February 2005  The Swedish-Norwegian Union and the Emergence of Nordic Nationalism
February 2006  On the Cutting Edge: Leading Scientific, Technological, Environmental and Cultural Developments in the Nordic Countries
February 2007  Grieg, Genes and Global Reach
February 2008  Myths, Digs and Saga Kings: A New Look at the Viking Age
February 2009  Sagas and the Viking World
February 2010  The Nordic Explorers: From Polar Frontiers to the Silk Road
February 2011  The Nordic Explorers: Voyages, Expeditions and Discoveries

Planning Committee

Larry Ashim
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NORDIC SPIRIT PRESENTS

THE NORDIC EXPLORERS:
VOYAGES, EXPEDITIONS AND DISCOVERIES

February 11-12, 2011

“THE ADVENTUROUS LIFE OF THOR HEYERDAHL.”

The Norwegian archeologist and writer Thor Heyerdahl is recognized as one of the great explorers of the 20th century. His bold expeditions often shocked the scientific community and his books inspired a sense of adventure for several generations. This lecture will provide an overview of the life of this amazing individual who was a daring creative thinker, global citizen and environmental activist. The presenter served as Heyerdahl's "right-hand man" during the last seven years of Heyerdahl's life.

DONALD RYAN, Ph.D., archaeologist and Faculty Fellow, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, Washington

Donald P. Ryan, Ph.D., is an archaeologist and Faculty Fellow in the Division of Humanities at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington. His areas of interest include Egyptian archaeology, Polynesian archaeology, and ancient languages and scripts. He is best known for his research in Egypt including excavations in the Valley of the Kings where he has discovered lost tombs and controversial mummies. He is the veteran of many expeditions and is the author of numerous scientific and popular articles on archaeological subjects and eight books. (His latest book is the highly-praised Beneath the Sands of Egypt (published by HarperCollins).

For several years, Ryan worked closely with the world-renowned Norwegian explorer, archaeologist and writer, the late Thor Heyerdahl. Together they excavated the mysterious pyramids of Guimar in Tenerife on the Canary Islands and Ryan is involved in continuing some of Heyerdahl's research.

Ryan is a former professional mountain guide, teaches mountaineering part-time and has been involved in a variety of other adventure sports including mountain-biking, skiing, adventure racing, long-distance running, paragliding, sea kayaking, spelunking and Hawaiian outrigger canoe racing. He is known to carry a croquet mallet to mountaintops and other far-flung places for additional recreation.
The Andrée Expedition
By Dominick Argento

Christian Nova, baritone
Frank Garvey, piano
Tony Gatto, director

On July 11, 1897, three Swedish explorers (A. Andrée, N. Strindberg and K. Frænkel) set off in a balloon to reach the North Pole. After four days, contact with the three men was lost. They were never heard from again. Some thirty years later their bodies, notebooks, journals, and letters were found. All the words you are about to hear are theirs.

This is their story...

Part One: In the Air
Prologue (Frænkel)
The Balloon Rises (Strindberg: Letter to Anna)
Pride and Ambition (Andrée: First Journal)
Dinner Aloft (Strindberg: Letter to Anna)
The Unforeseen Problem (Frænkel)
The Flight Aborted (Andrée: First Journal)

Part Two: On the Ice
Mishap With A Sledge (Strindberg: Letter to Anna)
The King’s Jubilee (Andrée: First Journal)
Illness and Drugs (Frænkel)
Hallucinations (Andrée: First Journal)
Anna’s Birthday (Strindberg: Letter to Anna)
Epilogue (Frænkel)
Final Words (Andrée: Second Journal)
“VITUS BERING: HERO, WIMP, OR SOMEBWHERE IN BETWEEN”

The accomplishments of Bering on his journeys across Siberia and during his two voyages into the North Pacific have been debated from his time to the present. The emphasis on "discovery" in the literature about Bering has been one factor; national bias has been another. Beginning with the orders given to him by Peter the Great, we will examine (as impartially as possible), the work done by Captain-Commander Bering and his Russian Navy colleagues. The claims made by Bering's detractors and supporters will be summarized and evaluated.

CAROL URNESS, Ph.D., Professor and Curator Emerita, James Ford Bell Library, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis

Carol Urness is Professor and Curator Emerita of the James Ford Bell Library, a collection of books, maps and manuscripts dating from the period 1400 to 1800. She acquired these rare original materials, prepared exhibits and publications about them, and taught history courses to graduate students, honors students, and Elder Learning Institute students. Since her retirement, she has opened Corner Books in St. Anthony Village, Northeast Minneapolis, where she is working on the organization and disposition of her own books, and offers services in book evaluation, collecting and conservation. This is also her office for writing and research.

In addition to her publications dealing with libraries, maps and the voyages of Vitus Bering, she writes newspaper columns about nature and has hand-printed several short books on her own press.

A new book recently published by Aarhus University Press in Denmark titled, The Journal of Midshipman Chaplin: A Record of Bering’s First Kamchatka Expedition was edited by Tatiana Fedorova and Viktor Sedov of St. Petersburg, Peter Ulf Moller of Denmark, and Carol Urness. The idea for the book originated in a meeting in Kamchatka, where Tatiana Fedorova (archivist at the Russian Naval Archives) and Carol agreed to attempt to get permission to translate and publish the manuscript journal in the archives. Carol writes “the story of the publishing of the book is a good one. The book is a major contribution to the information we have on Bering.”

Education:
Lamberton (Minnesota) Public Schools, 1954; St. Olaf College, Northfield, 1954-5
University of Minnesota, B.A. in English (honors) 1957;
University of Minnesota, M.A. in Library Science, 1960;
University of Minnesota, Ph.D. in Russian History, minor in Geography, 1982

Publications:


Languages: Reading knowledge of French, German, Latin, Norwegian, Russian, Spanish.

Left, an illustration of Peter the Great. Right, an illustration of Vitus Bering’s ship.
“A.E. NORDENSKIÖLD: EXPLORER AND GENTLEMAN”

Baron (Nils) Adolf Erik Nordenskiöld (18 November 1832, Helsinki, Finland – 12 August 1901, Dalbyö, Södermanland, Sweden) was a Finnish baron, geologist, mineralogist and arctic explorer of Finnish-Swedish origin. He was a member of the prominent Finland-Swedish Nordenskiöld family of scientists. Born in the Grand Duchy of Finland at the time it was a part of the Russian Empire, he was later, due to his political activity, forced to live in political exile in Sweden, where he later would become a Member of Parliament of Sweden and the Swedish Academy. He is most remembered for the Vega expedition along the northern coast of Eurasia, which he led in 1878-1879. This was the first complete crossing of the Northeast Passage. In this presentation, Professor Löytönen will follow Nordenskiöld through his life time with emphasis on three main topics: his work as an explorer of the arctic areas and the sailing of the Northeast passage, his enthusiasm on the history of map making, and his career as a politician.

MARKKU LöYTÖNEN, Ph.D., Professor of Human Geography and Vice Rector, University of Helsinki, Finland. Vice President, International Geographical Union

Markku Löytönen, professor of human geography at the University of Helsinki since 1999, is also vice rector of the university and vice president of the International Geographical Union. Between two periods in the University of Helsinki Department of Geography he was professor in the Department of Geography of the University of Turku for several years. His research interests range from the history of geography and exploration to quantitative methods and GIS with special interest in the geography of health. His list of publications totals over 250 titles, mostly articles, reviews and research reports. He is domestically a well-known author of popular science books, among them three books for children, for which he has received four literature awards. He has also authored a number of teaching materials. He is on the editorial board or editorial advisory board of Journal of Health and Place, International Journal of Health Geographies, and Belgeo. He has served as the Managing Editor and later as the Editor of Fennia and has served one term as the Editor of Terra. He is currently Vice president of the IGU. Past President of the IGU Finnish National Committee, Past President of the Geographical Society of Finland, President of the Finnish Association of Scholarly Publishing, full member of the Finnish academy of Science and Letters, board member of the Federation of Finnish Learned Societies, and first vice-chair of the Finnish Research Council for Biosciences and Environment. He has received numerous honors and awards including induction into the Order of the White Rose of Finland. He twice received the “Reindeer of the Year” award as the “Most Popular Teacher Elected by the First-Year Students of the Department of Geography, University of Helsinki.”
ROALD AMUNDSSEN: POLE TO POLE NORWEGIAN EXPLORER EXTRAORDINAIRE

Roald Amundsen was born into a family of Norwegian ship owners and captains in 1872. Early on, Amundsen knew that his quest was one of exploration and adventure. He was inspired and occasionally mentored by the most revered polar explorer of the time, Norwegian Fridtjof Nansen. Amundsen was a student of polar exploration rather than more conventional academies and was also influenced by Sir John Franklin who discovered the North West passage. Interestingly, Amundsen’s life story and expeditionary accomplishments parallel in many ways those of Nansen.

In 1897, Amundsen joined the Belgian Antarctic Expedition led by Adrien de Gerlache, who used the ship Belgica to accomplish the first over-wintering in Antarctica. de Gerlache allowed Belgica to be locked in sea ice at 70°30′S, in similar fashion to Nansen who had done the same in Arctic waters with the legendary ship Fram. Amundsen learned much about all aspects of polar exploration during this expedition, which also included the American doctor Frederick Cook who purported to be the first person to climb Mount McKinley (aka Denali) and to reach the North Pole. Despite his infancy, Cook likely saved the Belgica expedition and was later befriended by Amundsen even while Cook was serving a prison sentence at Fort Leavenworth.

Amundsen’s initial major accomplishment was leading the first expedition to successfully cross the Canadian North West Passage in the small, shallow draft ship Gjoa during the period of 1903-1905. This expedition was used to great advantage by Amundsen as he learned from natives about survival in the extreme polar climate as well as the use of sled dogs. Amundsen was never driven by scientific inquiry, preferring exploration and discovery for their own sake. Nonetheless, he was the first person to report that the position of the North Magnetic Pole is not stationary. Amundsen was acclaimed for the Passage adventure (documented in his book, North West Passage, 1908), which came at a time of great importance for Norway as it had just gained independence from Sweden. Amundsen’s polar accomplishment served to inspire the new nation headed by King Haakon VII at a time when polar exploration was viewed with great awe and was a major source of national pride.

Amundsen intended to be the first to lead an expedition to the North Pole, but reports had surfaced that both Frederick Cook (1908) and Robert Peary (1909) had already accomplished this feat. Interestingly, most experts now believe that the North Pole had not been actually reached at that point in time, but more on this later. In a stroke of genius, or some would say madness, Amundsen turned the Fram (without Nansen’s permission or knowledge) toward the South Pole on June 3, 1910. The final region on planet earth to be explored was indeed Antarctica. Amundsen wrote the following curt note to British Captain Robert Falcon Scott: “Beg to inform you Fram proceeding Antarctica – Amundsen.” And thus began perhaps the greatest race in human history – the race to be the first to plant a nation’s flag at the South Pole – also known as ‘the last place on earth.’ With diametrically opposed experiences, strategies, and personalities, Scott and Amundsen led teams to the South Pole. Amundsen beat Scott by 35 days, arriving at the Pole on December 14, 1911. Ironically, Scott rather than Amundsen was recognized as the more heroic, although the most tragic, figure until the publication of Roland Huntford’s masterful book Scott and Amundsen (also entitled The Last Place on Earth) in 1979, which debunked many of the myths of the polar race and the personalities and leadership qualities of Amundsen and Scott.
Later, Amundsen’s exploits included more polar exploration, sailing through the North East Passage with a new ship, Maud. Amundsen then attempted North Pole crossings using airplanes (with American Lincoln Ellsworth) and zeppelins. Leading the Norge zeppelin airship crew, he successfully passed directly over the North Pole, making him and exploration teammate Oscar Wisting the first persons to reach both geographic poles. The designer and captain of Norge, Italian Umberto Nobile, and Amundsen became fierce enemies following this accomplishment because of disputed credit and jealousies. Nonetheless, Amundsen ultimately gave his life in June 1928 in an airplane crash during search and rescue operations to find Nobile and his crew after their airship went down during Nobile’s flight, which was intended to land at the North Pole. Amundsen was arguably the greatest of polar explorers, yet to many, Nansen, Scott, and Ernest Shackleton remain better known figures of the remarkable Age of Exploration, which ended with Amundsen’s epic journey to the South Pole.

TOMMY DICKEY, Ph.D.

Professor and Chair in Oceanographic Sciences, Department of Geography and
Interdepartmental Program in Marine Sciences, University of California, Santa Barbara.

Dickey, a professor in the Department of Geography, is
principal investigator of UCSB’s Ocean Physics Laboratory. His
primary research interest is interdisciplinary oceanography, with
an emphasis on upper ocean dynamics and bio-optical
variability. He has used new technologies in the deployment of
physical, chemical, biological, and optical instrumentation on
autonomous platforms in coastal and deep open-ocean settings
around the world. The recorded data are returned by satellite
communication.

Dickey’s innovative research has spanned and linked the sub-
disciplines of physical, optical, geological, chemical, and
biological oceanography and has led to new interdisciplinary
observational capabilities that have vastly increased the number
of measurable variables and expanded observable time and
space scales. He has also been one of the leaders in the
development of bio-optical oceanography.

Tommy Dickey is one of two leading scientists nationwide who were awarded a prestigious
Secretary of the Navy and Chief of Naval Operations Chair in Oceanographic Sciences in 2008.
Past recipients include UCSB alumnus Robert Ballard, discoverer of the Titanic and scientist
emeritus from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

With the federal support, Dickey and his research team will explore ocean responses to
hurricanes, mesoscale eddies, and optical variability forced by ocean dynamics. As part of the
ocean optics portion of the project, he leads an Office of Naval Research Program that conducts
field experiments in the Santa Barbara Channel and in the Pacific Ocean off of the Hawaiian
Islands.

Dickey received his Ph.D. from Princeton University in geophysical fluid dynamics and has been
a member of the UCSB faculty since 1996. A fellow of the American Geophysical Union, he has
served as an editor for six scientific journals and has led six major multi-institutional ocean
research programs sponsored by the Office of Naval Research.
IN HEADWIND AND TAILWIND: STORIES FROM EXPEDITIONS IN ANTARCTICA AND THE ARCTIC

Liv Arnesen will relate stories from her experiences in Antarctica and the Arctic.

LIV ARNESEN, educator, motivational speaker, explorer, adventurer

A native of Norway, Liv Arnesen is an outdoors enthusiast who is most interested in the development of adults and children. Her rich life experiences have made her an internationally recognized role model for women and girls. Through her diverse roles as a polar explorer, educator and motivational speaker, Arnesen ignites passion in others to reach beyond their normal boundaries and achieve their dreams by sharing her own stories about exploring some of the most remote places on earth.

In 1994, she became the first woman in the world to ski solo and unsupported to the South Pole, a 50-day expedition of 745 miles. Prior to this, in 1992, she led the first unsupported women’s crossing of the Greenland Ice Cap. In 1996 she climbed the north side of Mount Everest to within 6200 feet of the summit before altitude sickness forced her to descend. In February 2001 she and Minnesota explorer Ann Bancroft became the first women to sail and ski across Antarctica’s landmass, completing a 94-day 1717 mile trek.

Her expeditions have been featured by the BBC, CNN, CTV, National Public Radio, NBC Nightly News and NBC’s Today Show. She has also been featured in numerous national print publications and more than 50 international newspapers and magazines. She is the author of a book about her 1994 expedition, Snille piger gør ikke till Sydpolen (Nice Girls Do Not Ski to the South Pole).

Among various awards, she was named one of Glamour magazine’s “Women of the Year” in 2001 and was recognized by the Russian Geographic Society with a “Diploma of Honor” in 1999.
CELIA LINDE, guitarist

Celia Linde, guitarist from Malmö, Sweden, is acclaimed for her personal style, her captivating temperament and for her wide range of musical interpretations. Linde will perform her unique variations of music from Swedish folk tunes and contemporary Latin American and Spanish music, to her own classical compositions. Touring frequently throughout Europe, the U.S., Canada, Finland, Scandinavia, Russia, and Turkey, she is often the featured artist on National Swedish Radio-Television and has also been profiled on the BBC, Denmark’s Radio, Turkish Radio-Television (TRT) and New York’s WNYC and other international radio stations. She recently completed a tour in China.

Noted for her interpretations of contemporary music, she has also commissioned a number of works for solo guitar and guitar with violin, including Sven-David Sandström’s “Six Concert Pieces for Guitar and Orchestra.”

She studied under professor Per Olof Johnson at the Malmö Academy of Music where she earned her Master of Arts. Celia then continued her studies at the Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen and earned a Master Soloist Diploma with highest Honors. After graduating in 1984, Celia arrived in New York to study with the renowned Brazilian guitarist Carlos Barbosa-Lima at the Manhattan School of Music, specializing in South American music.

LEROY ANDERSON

Adapted from Music is LeRoy Anderson’s Life by Michael Wang

A well-known musician in Southern California is LeRoy Anderson. Born in Chicago, his parents were from Jämtland and Skåne in Sweden.

He and his wife, Greta, a gifted pianist and organist, moved to the Los Angeles area in 1953.

Raised in the Augustana Swedish Lutheran Church, he has a love for Swedish choral music and hymnody which he has enthusiastically promoted during his 30-some years as a choral conductor in southern California churches, directing many festive choruses in concerts, cantatas, and oratorio.

In 1980 he organized and directed the “Nordic Chorale” of the Nordic Lodge, Vasa Order of America, in Whittier. In 1987 he organized and directed the church choir at the Norwegian-Swedish Seaman’s Church in San Pedro. In the 1990s he was asked to assume directorship of The Vasa Choir of District #15 and does much of the music arranging for these groups.

LeRoy is also a founder of “Vastkustens Speelmanstagra” (West Coast Musicians Ensemble) and does music arranging for this group. They have become well known and very popular in southern California, having played for KIEA store openings and Midsummer festivals, and have repeatedly played for “Scandinavian Days” at California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks. In 1992, ‘93, and ’94 they were invited to northern California’s annual “Spelmanstamma” where the group was acclaimed by all in attendance.

He is a past president of “The Swedish-American Central Association of Southern California,” a Past Chairman of Nordic Lodge, V.O.A., a former Director of the “Swedish-American Historical Association of California,” and a member of “The Association of Lutheran Church Musicians.”