



March 15th, 6:00pm – 11:30pm  
3939 Oak Street  
Fairfax, VA 22030

Buy your tickets now!  
Members \$80  
Non-members \$100

## “Thorablót 2014”

Reserve your hotel room by 1 March for discount!

### Menu:

Hangikjöt	Smoked Lamb
Lambalæri	Leg of lamb
Svið	Singed lamb head
Siðasulta	Head Cheese
Brúnaðar kartöflur	Caramelized potatoes
Rófustappa	Mashed Rutabagas
Kartöflur í uppstú	Patoes in white gravy
Rauðkál	Red Cabbage
Grænar baunir	Peas
Lyfrapylsa	Liver sausage
Blóðmör	Blood liver sausage
Hrútsprungar	Ram's testicles
Lundabaggi	Pressed sour sausage
Hákarl	Putrefied Shark
Reyktur lax	Smoked Salmon
Graflax	Gravlax
Síld	Marniated herring
Harðfiskur	Dried fish
Rúgbrauð	Rye Bread
Pönnukökur	Crepes
Skyrterta	Skyr Pie



### “LAME DUDES”

Will play for us again!

### Your Board:

President: Anna Bjarnadóttir-Wahoske  
Vice-President: Elínborg Þóra Þorbergsdóttir  
Treasurer: Gunnar Birgisson  
Recording Officer: Jessica Lilja Geiger  
Public Relations Officer: Friðrik Jónsson

E-mail: [icelanddc@hotmail.com](mailto:icelanddc@hotmail.com)  
Website: [icelanddc.com](http://icelanddc.com)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/IAofWDC](https://www.facebook.com/IAofWDC)

### Content in this issue:

Thorablót  
Word from the President  
Upcoming Events and dates  
Courses  
In Memory of  
Of Interest

Inserts:

Membership Form, Thorablót Ticket Form

## Words from the President

Komið þið sæl og blessuð,

We have a lot of interesting events to cover in this issue however, on behalf of the board, I would like to thank all of you who have volunteered and helped with prior events, whether it's baking, setting up, cleaning up, as cashier or kitchen diva/guy. We couldn't do this without you!

As most of you have noticed the price of the thorrablót ticket has gone up. In order to maintain the level of excellence, this was necessary due to higher food prices and transportation costs. We will have two new Icelandic Chefs this year and the band *Lame Dudes* will return. There is free transportation between the hotel and American Legion. Don't forget to send us an email if you will be using it.

The Annual General Meeting will be on 26 April (time and place TBD). The positions that will be up for election are: President, Recording Officer and Corresponding Officer. Please submit nominations by April 1, 2014 via [icelandddc@hotmail.com](mailto:icelandddc@hotmail.com) or our P.O. Box. Submitted nominations will be e-mailed to all members prior to meeting. We welcome all suggestions of a meeting place in order to increase attendance. Remember: in order to have a say in elections and issues voted on, you need to be there!

This year we are participating in the Snorri-West Program and will be looking for four host families for the young adults that will be here from 13 – 18 June. Help us welcome them at our Independence Day Celebration at the Ambassador Residency on 14 June. More to come on that in e-mail. To learn about the program visit [www.snorri.is](http://www.snorri.is)

The annual Icelandic National League of Northern America Convention will be in Manitoba, Canada, 15 – 18 May. Register and reserve your hotel early.

I hope that we will be successful in hosting a golf tournament in late summer, more to come on that at a later date.

Kveðja,

Anna Bjarnadóttir-Wahoske

## Upcoming Events and Dates

- Thorrablót,
  - 15 March, from 6:00 PM – 11:30 PM
  - American Legion Post 177
  - 3939 Oak Street, Fairfax, VA 22030
  - Reserve hotel room by March 1st
- Annual General Meeting
  - 26 April, time and place TBD
- Iceland Writers Retreat
  - Reykjavík, 9 – 13 April
  - [Icelandwritersretreat.com](http://Icelandwritersretreat.com)
- 95<sup>th</sup> INL of NA Convention
  - 15 – 18 May
  - Winnipeg, MB, Canada
  - <http://inlofna.org/Conf 2014>
- 17 June Celebration
  - 14 June, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
  - 2443 Kalorama Rd NW
  - Washington, DC 20008
- Snorri West Participants Stay
  - 13 – 18 June
  - [www.snorri.is](http://www.snorri.is)
- Intensive Graduate Summer Course
  - Reykjavík, 1 – 15 August
- Golf Tournament (potential)
  - Aug/Sep 2014
- Fall Picnic
  - 4 October, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
  - 3481 Sanders Lane
  - Catharpin, VA 20143
- Christmas Bazaar
  - 15 November, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
  - 3939 Oak street, Fairfax, VA 22030
- Christmas Family Party
  - 7 December, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
  - 2443 Kalorama Rd. NW
  - Washington, DC 20008

## ÞORRI

According to the old, Icelandic calendar, the month of Thorri begins on a Friday between 19 and 25 January. Thorri may be a distortion of the name of the old thunder god, Thor (Þór), but it has come to mean a personification, of the Winter King – often portrayed as an old, harsh man that lays a blanket of snow and ice over the whole country and is very reluctant to let go of his “ice fetters.”

Even though Thorri feasts were held at midwinter in pagan times, there is really nothing that connects them to the present day feasts of the same name. They are a twentieth century phenomenon, although there were a few instances in the nineteenth century when small groups of people gathered for a midwinter feast they called Thorrablot.

Thorramatur are the traditional Icelandic dishes, prepared the way people were forced to do in earlier times, when necessity and primitive methods of preservation demanded total use of their livestock. Thus, what once was a manifestation of dire need has now become a phenomenon of fashion.

The following are some of the traditional offerings at our Thorrablot:

**Hákarl**, fermented shark, usually buried for months to allow certain unhealthy substances to leak out, then air-dried. It is usually served in bite-size cubes and washed down with ice-cold brennivín.

**Hangikjöt**, smoked lamb, is served cold and cut into thin slices.

**Hrútspungar**, lamb’s testicles, are pressed and preserved in whey, with a mild, slightly sour taste.

**Svið**, halved sheep’s head and **Sviðasulta**, headcheese, both fresh and whey-preserved, is a must at a Thorri feast.

**Blóðmör**, blood pudding, and **Lifrapylsa**, liver sausage, both fresh and whey-preserved, are always to be found at these feasts. They are served cold in slices.

**Brennivín**, caraway-favored schnapps, a must with the shark.

## ICELAND WRITERS RETREAT

Reykjavik, 9 – 13 April

### Escape, Learn, Explore, Create

- ❖ Develop your writing
- ❖ Explore wild and wonderful Iceland, the land of the sagas
- ❖ Find inspiration and time to write in an unforgettable setting
- ❖ Meet and mingle with famous authors and like-minded writers

They invite published and aspiring book writers in the fields of both fiction and non-fiction to participate in a series of workshops and panels led by an esteemed team of international writers.

For more information visit:  
IcelandWritersRetreat.com

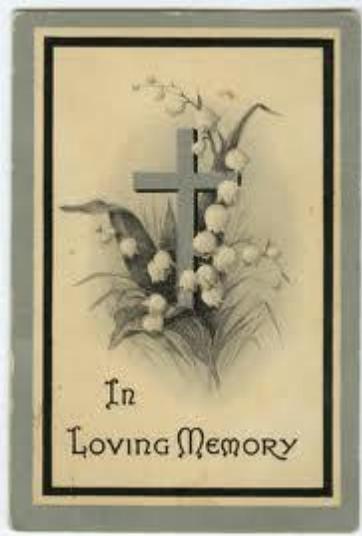
### Intensive Graduate Summer Course – organized by The Reykjavik Academy, and Mid Sweden University

Announcing a unique graduate course in integrated environmental humanities to take place in northern Iceland 1-15 August 2014.

The Svartarkot intensive graduate summer course (10 ECTS) is co-organized by The Reykjavik Academy and Mid Sweden University, in close cooperation with NABO (The North Atlantic Bicultural Organization), NIES (The Nordic Network for Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies) and GHEA (The Global Human Eco dynamics Alliance). Aimed at masters and doctoral-level study, the course involves multiple field excursions and lectures and draws upon the intersections of Ecocriticism, Environmental History, Environmental Anthropology and Archaeology in the integrated research fields of Historical Ecology and Environmental Humanities.

Here is a direct link to the course description, which includes important details regarding deadlines, tuition, practical arrangements, contact and application details, etc.:

<http://scn.akademia.is/summer-course.html>



It is with great sadness that we say farewell to four of our long time members due to illnesses. We are forever grateful for your friendship and support. You are missed!

James "Jim" McLean

Gunnar Thorisson

Robert "Bob" Seifert

Anna Pálmadóttir Wilkes

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## OF INTEREST

### Books:

PAM on the MAP, ICELAND, by Pam Stucky - [www.pamstucky.com](http://www.pamstucky.com)

Trolls – Monster Worm – Hidden People: Fond Memories of Iceland, by Ieda J. Herman

Both books are sold on Amazon.

Safnaðu öllum skemmtulegu ævintýrabókunum um Huldu Völu dýravin. Bókaflokkur fyrir 7 ára +. Þýðandi Nína Ólafsdóttir, sendið fyrirspurnir á [ted\\_anna@hotmail.com](mailto:ted_anna@hotmail.com)

### Hús til leigu:

Hús til leigu í vesturbæ Kópavogs! Um er að ræða einbýlishús á tveimur hæðum, 4 svefnherbergi, vinnuherbergi, 2 baðherbergi, svakalega rúmgott eldhús, stór garður og stór pallur. Húsið leigist með húsgögnum. Leigutími: ca maí - júlí/byrjun ágúst. Leiguverð: Sanngjarnt. Þeir sem hafa áhuga á þessu eða óska eftir frekari upplýsingum geta haft samband við Önnu Björk: [abs@hi.is](mailto:abs@hi.is)

### Real Estate:

Aaron J. Browning, Real Estate Consultant, [www.browninghomesgroup.com](http://www.browninghomesgroup.com)

### Links:

[www.iceland.is](http://www.iceland.is) – Icelandic Embassy

[firc.us](http://firc.us) – Frida Icelandic Riding Club

[icelandguy.com](http://icelandguy.com) – The Iceland Guy

[icelandicroots.com](http://icelandicroots.com) – Icelandic Roots

[inlofna.org/IOC](http://inlofna.org/IOC) – Icelandic Online Club

[lh-inc.ca](http://lh-inc.ca) – Lögberg-Heimskringla

[ibudaskipti.net](http://ibudaskipti.net) - Íbúðaskipti

[inlofna.org](http://inlofna.org) – Icelandic National League of North America

[scandinavian-dc.org](http://scandinavian-dc.org) – American Scandinavian Association

[nammi.is](http://nammi.is) – Icelandic candy