



Award-winning Danish musicians Lydom, Bugge and Høirup are coming to perform at the festival.

SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRY

Returning for the Queen's Ball at 8 p.m. Friday will be local favorite Coreen Bergholm and her band, Scandinavian Country. Coreen learned to play accordion in an immigrant community in North Dakota and now spends winters performing around Yuma, Arizona, where she met Ken, the tuba and trombone player. This is the band that plays the local favorite dances like the Varsouvienne, the Butterfly and the Irish waltz as well as polkas, schottisches, waltzes and hambos. They even play the Chicken Dance and the Hokey Pokey.

THE SQUEEZER AND THE GEEZER

Coreen Bergholm learned to play accordion in an immigrant community in North Dakota and now spends winters performing around Yuma, Arizona, where she met tuba and trombone player Ken Pres-thus. This duo is back after an absence last year, and we know you will enjoy their music and shenanigans in the beer garden at 2 and 4 p.m. Saturday.

SKOLKIS

Skolkis is the Seattle band that appeared on Garrison Keillor's Prairie Home Companion in 2015, and the group returns to Astoria to perform for the Saturday night Dancers' Ball at 7 p.m. in the Exhibit Hall. This group includes fiddlers Emma Anderson, Martha Levenson, Vicki Watt Warshaw and guitarist EJ Landsman. They play the music of Denmark, Norway and Sweden and pay tribute to master musicians who inspired them. The result is music that lightens the heart and step, lifts the spirit, and prompts an audience to clamor for more. The group's name is Swedish for "playing hooky," and it's a good fit for the group's playful stage presence. Skolkis cut its teeth playing for dances in Seattle and for several years has been a featured group at the Northwest Folklife Festival.

VASA YOUTH GROUP

The littlest dancers at the festival come from Portland and will perform at the festival on Saturday, dancing at the Midsummer Pole at noon on the front lawn and at 1:30 p.m. in the Arena. This group of Swedish dancers is led by Christine Smith.

THE EMPIRE OF CHIVALRY AND STEEL VIKING ENCAMPMENT

The Empire of Chivalry and Steel specializes in the recreation of the culture of the Middle Ages, including the art forms, events (feasts, tournaments, ceremonies and wars), and combat arts from that period. The purpose of this nonprofit educational corporation is to study and teach ideals and history from 800 AD to 1650 AD within



The Empire of Chivalry and Steel will demonstrate the culture and combat arts of the Middle Ages.

the geographical boundaries of Europe and to provide an organized effort in the collection, interpretations and distribution of historical data through publication and demonstration. Empire participants will open their Viking Encampment to the public from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. See Viking demonstrations at 1 p.m. both days; chainmail making demos at 2 p.m. both days; and loom demonstrations at 3 p.m. Saturday and at noon Sunday.

Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival



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CLATSOP COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

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13th annual Running of the Trolls

All are invited to attend this walk or run in the Olney countryside. Proceeds benefit the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Association Scholarship Fund.

When: 8:30 a.m. Saturday, June 18

Distance choice:

1.5-mile run / walk
3-mile run / walk
5.75-mile run

Cost: \$25 entry fee includes: free parking for Saturday, a bottle of water, and your choice of a T-shirt or a three-day admission pass to the festival.

Race day check-in:

7 to 8 a.m. at the Clatsop County Fairgrounds building entrance. T-shirts or festival buttons, as well as parking pass and water are distributed at this time.

Awards: Overall top male, female, teen and youth finisher/runner in 5.75-mile run will be awarded prizes.



PHOTO BY JOSHUA BESSEX

Perry Browning has been the festival troll for about 20 years. Trolls are deeply rooted in Scandinavian mythology. "Whatever was bad, Mom and Dad would blame it on the troll," Browning said.



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Festival



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