

**A Quadrimestrial Newsletter Published for Members of the We Love Lundby Club**

**Visting Swedish Treasures to Highlight 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gathering**

WHO KNEW there were so many Swedish treasures in the Washington, DC area? I certainly didn't until I emailed Gerald Schue-man, the editor of the American Scandinavian Association of the National Capital Area, Inc. (ASAN-CA) newsletter, to ask for Swedish places to visit. Thanks to him, we are making plans to tour a variety of Scandinavian-related sites during the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary convention of the WLLC.

Remember the dates of September 17-21, 2014. After arriving on Wednesday, attendees will gather on Thursday (Virginia DAY), to see Sue's Lundby museum, and we'll visit the sculpture garden in National Memorial Park, and antique and thrift stores in Falls Church; on Friday (District of Columbia DAY) we'll tour the House of Sweden, the Kennedy Center, and other attractions; and on Saturday (Maryland DAY) we'll shop until we drop in the Smart Toys Store in Potomac; at Klaradal, member Sue Kopperman's Swedish store in Olney; and IKEA in College Park. Later that evening we'll celebrate at our birthday bash. Departures will be on Sunday after a farewell breakfast.

Registration information and forms concerning travel and lodging accommodations are available upon request. Don't miss the extended deadline date of August 10, 2014, for sign-ups. We have much to celebrate!



*Ten Years of Exploring All Things Lundby—2004-2014*



Photos by Sue Morse

The Fountain of Faith and The Sun Singer, by Carl Milles (1875-1955).



***The Fountain of Faith and The Sun Singer, by Swedish Sculptor Carl Milles***

THE LOCATION OF TWO GREAT SWEDISH ARTWORKS was totally unknown to me until I read an article about them in the January 2014 ASANCA newsletter. From my home in Falls Church, it's only a few miles to the National Memorial Park, where those impressive bronze sculptures by Carl Milles have stood for more than 60 years.

*The Fountain of Faith* is a massive collection of sculptures in a fountain showing many different groups of people being reunited in heaven. Carl Milles was commissioned to do this work by Robert F. Marlowe in 1952. Milles considered it as one of his greatest accomplishments, and the artist himself contributed a copy of his famous statue, *The Sun Singer*, to be installed adjacent to the fountain.

Just inside the gates of the National Memorial Park, a sign welcomes visitors to the powerful sculpture garden of *The Fountain of Faith*. The words below are embossed on the sign:

In these sculptured figures of *The Fountain of Faith*, Carl Milles, the great Swedish sculptor, has captured the warmth and tenderness, the joy and strength of supreme love in all human relationships.

Rising above the limits of this world, the beauty and hope of reunion after life is here perpetuated in bronze to give us infinite peace.

The Fountain of Faith makes us see that we do not walk alone...that we all have a part in the bigger scheme of things.

Let these figures in this Fountain of Faith remind us that faith is not just for holy days but that faith is for every day.

## FOUNTAIN OF FAITH

*continued from page 1*

A quiet moment before this great work of art can make us draw closer together, and grant us tranquility. For this is the Fountain of Faith.

*The Sun Singer* stands on a pedestal equal in height to the statue in its own spacious courtyard called Court of the Sun Singer several hundred yards away from *The Fountain of Faith*. This 15-foot tall statue is a copy of the one which stands in front of the Parliament building in Stockholm. ♥



*The We Love Lundby Club banner was originally given to us by Sharon Barton Maggio, CA, when she sent a congratulatory bouquet for our 2007 convention in DC. We've used the banner at every convention since that year, when we also celebrated Lundby's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.*

## ScanFest Celebrates 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

GOING TO SCANFEST is a close second best to actually visiting Sweden! Before making our trip to Sweden in 2012, the WLLC made its presence known two years before in 2010 at ScanFest, a day-long event celebrating Scandinavian life.

Go to help celebrate ScanFest's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Sunday, August 31, on Labor Day weekend. ScanFest is located at Vasa Park, 1 Wolfe Road, Budd Lake, New Jersey. Visit the website, [www.scanfest.org](http://www.scanfest.org), to purchase tickets and find the event schedule. ♥



From the Morse Collection

*Front and back of Lundby Fashion Doll packages. The photo of the back of the packaging shows that the dolls were accessorized with a car and modern dollhouse filled with cute furniture, all made of plastic in China.*

Photo courtesy of [www.Lauritz.com](http://www.Lauritz.com)

## Dolls, Dolls, and More Look Alike Dolls!

SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT the 1985 Lundby doll, which exhibits such a strong resemblance to the American Girl doll, were answered in the April 2014 issue. Perhaps the reason that any mystery remains is

that the large doll, thought to be manufactured for Lundby by German doll maker Gotz, was not in production very long. That is also true about the rare Fashion Dolls made by Lundby. These dolls were similar in looks to the Barbie doll, manufactured by the US toy company, Mattel.

Six different versions of the Lundby fashion dolls are the last known dollhouse dolls to have been designed and marketed by Lundby before their final bankruptcy in 1993. As with the earlier dolls, very little can be determined about the duration of manufacture because they aren't included in any catalogs. We do know, however, they were sold in the early 1990s when Lundby was a part of the Scanbox Danmark Group.

To illustrate further the similarity to Barbie, Yvette Wadsted shared photos from a Lundby dollhouse collection on auction at [www.Lauritz.com](http://www.Lauritz.com).



*A bevy of Lundby Fashion Dolls joy riding in their little red sports car.*



## Barton Pictures Reinvented in TV Screens

REMEMBER THE TEASER with the four Barton wall pictures in the last issue? Thanks to the valuable help from advisory members Marion Osborne, UK; and Peter Pehrsson, Sweden, we may have recently identified a wooden television set with splayed legs. Though the TV is not included in any known Barton catalog, Peter, a keenly aware collector, noticed that the picture on the screen is one that Barton used on wall pictures, like the ones sent by Marion.

As Marion observes, "It's not exactly an open and shut case. After all, where did Barton buy their pictures? I am sure they were not printed especially for Barton and therefore unique to them. The best clue is that the TV does have the splayed legs that Barton liked to use in the 1960s and 1970s."

What do you think? ♥



*Four Barton wall pictures.*



*Barton TV with screen showing the top left-hand picture. From the Morse collection.*



*Barton TV with screen showing the bottom left-hand picture. Courtesy of e-Bay seller.*

Photo courtesy of Marion Osborne



# Lundby Lovers Group on Facebook, Moderated by WLLC Members

By Julie Plovnick

WHERE DO LUNDBY FANS GO TO CONNECT ONLINE with other Lundby fans from around the world? One popular spot is the Lundby Lovers group on Facebook, described as a place “for all the dolls house enthusiasts and miniaturists all over the world who love Lundby dolls houses, furniture and accessories.”

The closed group is moderated by We Love Lundby Club members Mervi Pirinen, Finland, who created the closed group in 2009, and Paige Baird, UK, who has moderated since 2013. In Paige’s words, “The greatest value to members is the community atmosphere of the group. Everyone is really friendly and inclusive, especially towards newer members. Members are happy to help each other identify houses and furniture and enjoy sharing their collections and knowledge. They look out for pieces for each other and share photo stories of progress and improvements in their houses, particularly when they decorate or gain new pieces. The benefits are endless really.”

Lundby Lovers is a welcoming, highly active group with multiple posts almost every day and almost 400 members as of July 2014. Members hail from Australia, Finland, Ireland, England, France, Swe-

den, Denmark, Norway, Canada, the U.S., and more.

Mervi and Paige would also like potential members to know that the group is not just limited to Lundby but they also encourage members to post questions, comments, and photos about other brands of 1/16<sup>th</sup> miniatures.

To join Lundby Lovers, log in to Facebook (or create an account if you don’t have one), search on “Lundby Lovers,” and click the “Join Group” button. Since it is a closed group, you’ll hear back from the administrators in a short period of time. ♥

*(Editor’s Note: Try it. You’ll like it as much as I do!)*

Mervi Pirinen proudly displays her Lundby collection.



Photo courtesy of Paige Baird

Paige Baird with her Lundby dollhouses.

## Position Remains Open for Club Manager/Editor

By Sue Morse

AT THE TIME OF PRINTING, no one has yet stepped forward to become the next club manager/editor of the We Love Lundby Club. That opportunity still exists for all members or interested collectors. The successor must be able to communicate well, and it’s handy to have a PayPal account to collect dues. Please indicate your interest in this position by emailing me at [toysmiles@aol.com](mailto:toysmiles@aol.com).

Please respond no later than August 30.



### July 2014 Membership Update

WELCOME to our most recent new club members, Sieglinde Nedomansky, Austria; Lydia Bennett, OH; and Ticia Luengo Hendriks, The Netherlands.

An updated 2014 Membership Directory, including address and email changes, will be emailed or mailed to all members. ♥



Photo courtesy of Mervi Pirinen

## Blackpool Factory in UK Produced Unique Lundby Products

TWO RARE LUNDBY PRODUCTS have recently come to our attention. Both of them undoubtedly were manufactured at the Blackpool factory in Lancaster, England.

One example is a previously unknown version of the Lundby car. The steering wheel is on the right side for driving in the UK. There is little uncertainty that the car was manufactured at the Blackpool factory in the UK, sometime between 1977 and 1986 when Lundby products were made there.



Lundby car for driving in the UK. Photo courtesy of eBay seller.

Another product was made known to me by an English gentleman, Phil Holt, who emailed that his fiancé has owned since childhood a Lundby hospital, purchased in the 1970s in Blackburn, Lancashire. Furthermore, they had never seen nor heard of another like it until they came upon the club website and read the article in the April 2011 issue of *The Lundby Letter*.

Does anyone in the club have either of these singularly unusual Lundby items? ♥



One photo shows Lundby hospital with Playmobil figures and the other displays the Lundby label on the framework. Photos courtesy of Phil Holt.

From the Harrington Collection



Patricia's 1987 Jubileum set.

## A Caroline's Home/Lundby Electrolux Vacuum

IT ISN'T UNUSUAL for manufacturers and names of cleaning tools to be different from country to country. Although Britain's A. Barton Company miniaturized an upright vacuum in the 1980s for their Caroline's Home series, they applied an "Electrolux" label, the original version of which was produced by a Swedish company. Earlier versions of Barton's vacuums were referred to as "Hoovers."

The Electrolux vacuum appeared in several Caroline's Home catalogs from the 1980s; however, the item has not been found in any Lundby catalogs.

It is thought that only once has the upright vacuum been included in a Lundby product, and that was in the

1987 Jubileum set issued to celebrate Lundby of Sweden's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Jubileum set is featured in an article by Patricia Harrington in the March 2010 issue of *The Lundby Letter*. Thanks to Patricia for sharing the photo of this rare set. Try magnifying the vacuum to reveal the Electrolux name. ♥



### And Now, it's 35 Issues of *The Lundby Letter*— Only One More to Come

WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE STORIES from the 35 issues of *The Lundby Letter* over the last ten years? Be sure to send your top ten favorite articles to

[toysmiles@aol.com](mailto:toysmiles@aol.com)

so they can be counted toward the final Top Ten List, which will be revealed at the convention in September. ♥

From the Morse Collection



Sue's Electrolux vacuum in her Manor House.





## Decade After Decade, Lundby Dazzles with Delightful Packaging

SIXTH IN A SERIES

By Sue Morse

SOME VINTAGE LUNDBY MYSTERIES will probably forever remain secret. One of those mysteries might be the identity of individuals who were responsible for the clever packaging that Lundby used in marketing their products—especially the designers of the earliest boxes in the 1960s.

In two earlier issues, June 2010 and July 2011, we observed photos of the very rare packaging of LundbyModels, believed to be one of the earliest, if not *THE* earliest, box holding Lundby items. We presume that the labeling was meant for a special market for a short period of time, and the name possibly was used simultaneously with the regular Lundby label.

You can imagine how excited I was last month to win one of the six sets of LundbyModels offered on eBay. The



One of the 1960s LundbyModels sets (not the one I won) sold on eBay this summer. Photo courtesy of eBay seller.

seller, who is from New York state, dated them correctly as 1963-64, after finding the items in catalogs on Elisabeth Lantz's site.

Because of space limitations in this issue, we will feature photos of Lund-



Front and back sides of early 1960s Lundby packaging. Photo courtesy of eBay seller.

by packaging from only one decade, the Decade of the 1960s. Be sure to stay tuned for the article in the upcoming October 2014 newsletter when we'll feature packaging from the Decade of the 1970s through the packaging by Micki Leksaker from the Decades of the 2000s and 2010s. ♥

### Lundby Connections

IT'S VERY DIFFICULT to give up your childhood Lundby. Maryland resident Gabriella Banyasz was moving to Paris this summer and found us through the Internet. Gabriella's father purchased this beautiful Lundby for her in the late 1970s while he was working in Germany. Both she and I were happy that I could buy it from her and give it a very good home! Photo by Sue Morse.



♥  
CONGRATULATIONS to Peter Pehrson, Sweden, who launched a website a decade ago in 2004 so he could share free information about Lundby and other dollhouse manufacturers. His major contribution, however, was a ground-breaking effort: providing free access to download from his site PDFs of catalogs from Lund-

by, Caroline's Home, BRIO, and other miniature makers.

Five years later in 2009, he transferred the project to Elisabeth Lantz's website, [www.swedish-dollshouses.com](http://www.swedish-dollshouses.com), where the catalogs remain available and free for personal use.

Peter and Elisabeth also assisted with the compilation of our updated Chronological List of Lundby Catalogs, available as a PDF on the Members Only page. The photo is courtesy of the Internet pioneer himself at a coolish Midsummer 2014. The Midsummer pole stands in the background to the left.



♥  
NEW MEMBER LYDIA BENNETT, OH, is seeking an answer on an electricity question. What have our fellow members' experiences been regarding the length of

time that bulbs and wiring work in the electrified accessories and lights in vintage houses? Please send your responses to [toysmiles@aol.com](mailto:toysmiles@aol.com) and we'll share all your answers.

♥  
TWO LUNDBY COLLECTORS just can't get enough of each others' company! Jennifer Rosskamp, GA, and Maria Cannizzaro, NC, who met originally at the 2012 Gemla Gathering, take advantage of living in neighboring states so they can visit each others' collections frequently. Here they are together again with lots of toys in the background. Photo courtesy of Maria Cannizzaro.



♥  
Continued on page 6

## Luck Helps in Searches for Lundby

*A tribute to toy collectors, Nanci and Dick Wilkinson and Palle Linck*

By Sue Morse

LITTLE DID I KNOW that my Lundby collecting was beginning during a very challenging period in Lundby's history. In 1996 when I purchased my first Lundby dollhouse, years of financial problems had caused the company to go bankrupt, and new Lundby items were no longer exported to the US.

Early in 1997 I started my search for the Lundby company. After numerous letters to different Lundby addresses (Lerum, Bromma and Malmo) were returned to me, one of my communications finally reached the new owner of the Lundby line, Micki Leksaker. After an initial friendly response from



Photo by Peter Pehrsson

*Palle Linck and Peter Pehrsson had never met until Peter's recent visit to Palle's home in Sweden.*

Micki, I later mysteriously lost contact with them.

Another year went by until March 1998 when long-time friends Nanci and Dick Wilkinson of Bethesda, MD, attended a toy show in Gothenburg, Sweden. I asked them to search for a dealer who could fill my growing Lundby order and, luckily, they made a direct personal contact for me with Swedish miniatures dealer, Palle Linck. Over the next two years, not only did Palle sell me scores of Lundby items, he also provided some very interesting historical information about Lundby.

In October 2000, Palle's generosity extended to hosting my husband Hal and me, and Hal's niece Kim, at the Lundby exhibit at the Vanersborgs Museum, north of Gothenburg. We later visited him in his Billesholm residence before heading to Copenhagen to return home.

I credit Palle with instilling in me a passion for finding out more about Lundby, and eventually forming the We Love Lundby Club. Over the years I have purchased many of my favorite Lerro and Lundby pieces from him. He always went out of his way to accommodate my Lundby obsession, even to the point of meeting me in Copenhagen in 2001 to make a personal delivery of more Lundby items.

Palle retired in 2010 from his professional life of working diligently against drugs in Venezuela and Colombia, as well as in Sweden and Denmark. Now he is giving attention to his miniatures collection in hopes of liquidating his remaining inventory of rare Lundby items. He has a huge farm of Lundby Christmas goats MIP that he'd like to find homes for! If you are interested in finding out what else he has to sell, please contact him at his email: [kivitok2@hotmail.com](mailto:kivitok2@hotmail.com). ♥

## Vectis Auction of Dick's Toys to be held in the UK

The Wilkinson's trips to Europe to hunt for toys continued for 15 more years after that momentous meeting with Palle in Sweden. Sadly, those trips ended with Dick's death at the age of 80 from pancreatic cancer October 30, 2013. For 75 of those years, he collected toys. His was a very happy life.

Among Nanci's fondest memories of hers and Dick's European trips are the Delft and Tekno factories in The Netherlands; the Toymania shows in Paris; the fabulous Rhine River cruises where they would stop in little villages to collect; the toy shops in Vienna; the Christmas markets; department stores KaDeWe in Berlin and Harrods in London, and all the little towns in England that had toy shops, many of which are gone now because of the Internet.

Dick left behind such a massive toy collection that the family decided to auction 522 boxes of toy soldiers, military vehicles, cars and trucks, construction toys, truck terminals, garages and other structures. The auction will be conducted by the UK company, Vectis Auctions, in a number of phases, the first phase being on November 24, 2014.

*Antique Toy World* will feature Dick's toy collection on the February 2015 cover. Vectis will advertise in *The Toy Soldier* magazine and many other American and European toy publications. More information about the auction can be obtained on the Vectis Auctions website, [www.vectis.co.uk](http://www.vectis.co.uk). ♥



Photo by Sue Morse

*Dick often wore Scottish attire for special occasions because of his Scottish heritage.*



**The Lundby Letter** is published triannually for members of the **We Love Lundby Club**.

If you have any inquiries about an article, or if you are interested in submitting a story or project of your own, please do not hesitate to write or email us.

### THE LUNDBY LETTER

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## LUNDBY CONNECTIONS

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BEFORE YOU BEGIN a project on your Lundby dollhouse with renovation/restoration, repapering, cleaning, and repair, be sure to first check Julie Plovnick's website. Here is the link to the Resources & Restoration page of her website: <https://sites.google.com/site/vintagelundby/resources-restoration>. ♥

### Coming Up in the October 2014 Issue

-  Report on 2014 Convention
-  More Decades of Delightful Packaging
-  Future Plans for WLLC and website