

December 2020

Golden Valley Lodge #616 Newsletter



Merry Christmas

Jenny Nyström is a wonderful Swedish artist; this is one of her pieces on the right. Her images have appeared in the newsletter before but, I don't know what took me so long to include her in our Culture Corner.

Gnomes, or tomte, were year round mischievous characters in our family - but Nyström is known for associating them with Santa. See page four for little bit about her from Wikipedia and author, Karin W. Person in Vestkussen.



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are now in another lockdown while we wait for the promised vaccine to arrive. We were lucky to have had two wonderful meetings in October and November. We will probably have to wait until March of 2021 to plan another meeting. Meanwhile we have Zoom. Our meeting will be December 10th at 6:30. Laurie will be taking over for Hubert because he and Silva are moving into their new home.(Details will be emailed separately.)

We will have a small business meeting while we take care of the business that must be done in 2020. We will announce the scholarship winners and discuss out yearly donations. If you have something that should be brought up, please let me know. After the business we can all visit for a while.

Delphine

GVL Happenings

Happy December Birthday!!!

Laila Jensen	5
Robert Shoemaker	10
Chase Dodd	15
Shannon Traxel	18
Eva Brown	25
Robert Holstein	25
Merry Shepler	25
Hubert Pitters	27
Gunilla Polutanovich	29
Nicholas Storch	31

Ha en trevlig födelsedag!



Lucia

Jason Blohm shared on Facebook that there is an online **Lucia celebration** hosted by the American Swedish Institute. Visit

<https://www.facebook.com/AmericanSwedishInstitute>

for details. It will take place on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020 AT 11 AM PST.

There is a small fee to connect to the presentation.

2020 Golden Valley Lodge Board & Service Positions

Chair: Delphine Trowbridge
Vice Chair: Chase Dodd
Past Chair: Inga Francis
Corresponding Secretary: Dorothy Burns
Assistant Secretary: Mona Steffen
Financial Secretary: Maidie Karling
Treasurer: Birgitta Clark
Chaplain: Andrea Tabanelli
Master of Ceremonies: Lucas Taylor
Assistant MoC: Dylan Olson
Cultural: Laurie Taylor (Temp)
Chaplain: Andrea Tabanelli
Chairman of Trustees: Kerstin Wendt
Trustee -3: Maria Jacobs
Trustee -1: Bertil Winther
Chairman of Auditors: Maidie Karling
Auditor #2: Britt Marie Potter
Membership Chair: Maidie Karling
Events Co-Chair: Maggie Connelly & Delphine Trowbridge
Scholarship Chair: Beth Bunnell
Financial Chair: Hubert Pitters
Historian: Laurie Taylor
Vasa Park: Richard Heinstedt
Bar: Roy & Hanna Olson
Newsletter: Laurie Taylor
Youth Group: Nicolette Taylor

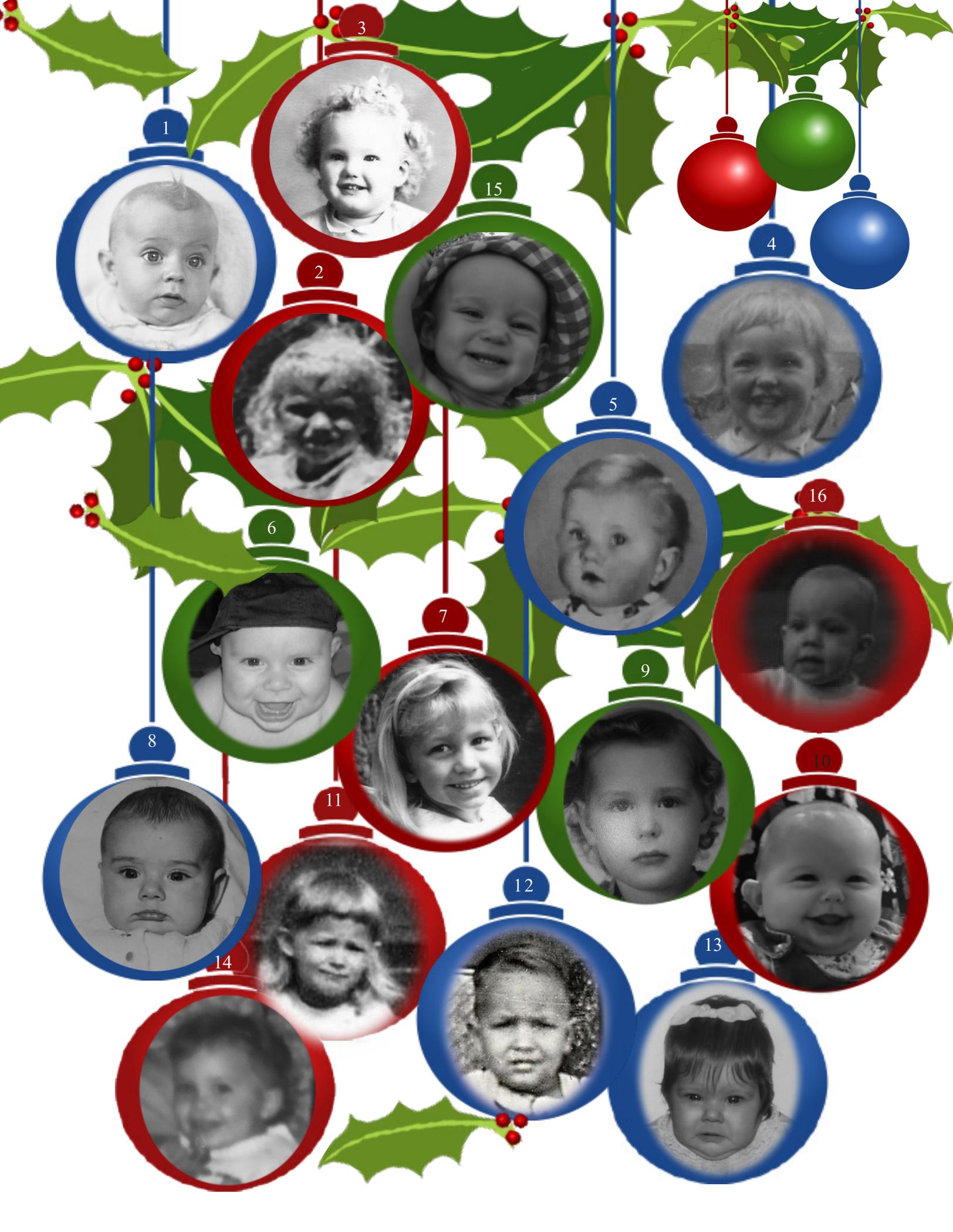
Connecting Through Covid

Do you still make New Year's Resolutions? Among Americans who are making resolutions, the most common ones are exercising more (50%), saving money (49%), eating more healthily (43%), and losing weight (37%)

Are resolutions easier or harder with the current restrictions?

Would you share your New Year's resolutions with us? Especially if you think you have something unusual! Send them in!

If you have any pictures or stories to share, please send them to laurietaylor@hotmail.com!



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Culture Corner: Jenny Nyström



Once upon a Christmas time almost a hundred and fifty years ago in 1874, a 20 year old Swedish girl read a children's story by the great Swedish Author and Poet Viktor Rydberg. The girl was Jenny Nyström and the story was called "Little Vigg's Adventure on Christmas Eve". In it, the boy Vigg was taken for a ride through space by a friendly "tomte" on his visit to children to bring presents. (The "tomte" is a Nordic mythological figure, supposed to protect and watch over humans, animals and homes, particularly in the country. At Christmas time he is usually awarded with a dish of white Christmas rice porridge). The young Jenny was then a budding artist. She was fascinated by the story and sat down and drew a "tomte" riding through space in a sleigh drawn by eight horses. The Swedish Christmas Tomte (a cousin to Santa Claus) was born. Jenny drew him as a small, tousled old man with a white beard, gray hornspun trousers and tunic and a red conical pointed

cap. When Viktor Rydberg saw the drawing he was so pleased that Jenny Nyström was asked to illustrate his 'book about Vigg's adventures that was published the following year. The short Christmas tale for all ages was widely printed and has since become a Christmas classic in Sweden. Jenny Nyström eventually became Sweden's most productive painter and illustrator. Jenny Nyström not only became "mother" to the Swedish Christmas Tomte, she also introduced the Swedish Christmas Card. Her colorful water colors of friendly "tomtar" in red caps, usually watching over the family in red farm home set in a white winter landscape, has become classic.

Jenny Eugenia Nyström (13 or 15 June 1854 in Kalmar, Sweden – 17 January 1946 in Stockholm) was a very talented painter and illustrator. Her father was a school teacher and piano teacher, and also the cantor of the Kalmar Castle Church. When Jenny Nyström was eight



years old, the family moved to Gothenburg, where her father had found a better paying teaching job.

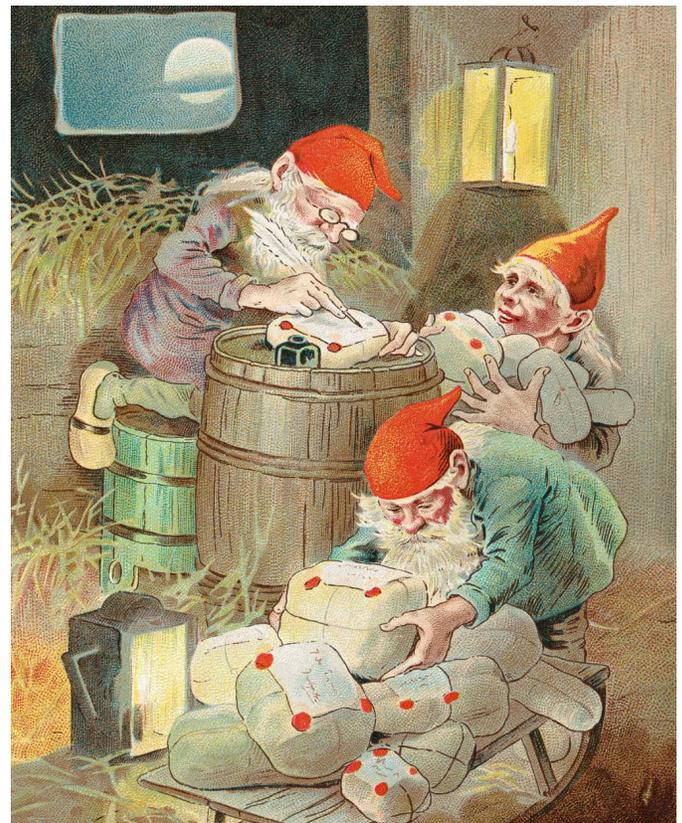
She studied at the Kjellbergsska flickskolan. In 1865 she started in the Gothenburg art school Göteborgs Musei-, Rit- och Målarskola, today known as Konsthögskolan Valand, and in 1873 she was admitted to the Royal Swedish Academy of Arts in Stockholm, where she studied for eight years. Her greatest success came when she, as the first woman ever, was awarded the coveted Royal Medal for Art and Literature, a great honor indeed. Thanks to a scholarship, this was followed by studies in Paris 1882–1886, at Académie Colarossi and Académie Julian. While in Paris, she discovered the booming postcard market, and tried to persuade the Swedish publishing house Bonnier to start producing postcards, but they declined.

In 1887, at the age of 33, she married medical student Daniel Stoopendaal (1853-1927), brother of fellow artists Henrik Wilhelm Johan Stoopendaal (1846 - 1906), Ferdinand Jacob Stoopendaal (1850-), and Georg Vilhelm Stoopendaal (1866-1953). Due to tuberculosis Daniel was never able to finish his studies and take up his intended profession. It was instead up to Jenny to support herself, her husband and their son through her artistry, while Daniel handled her business affairs. He died in 1927.

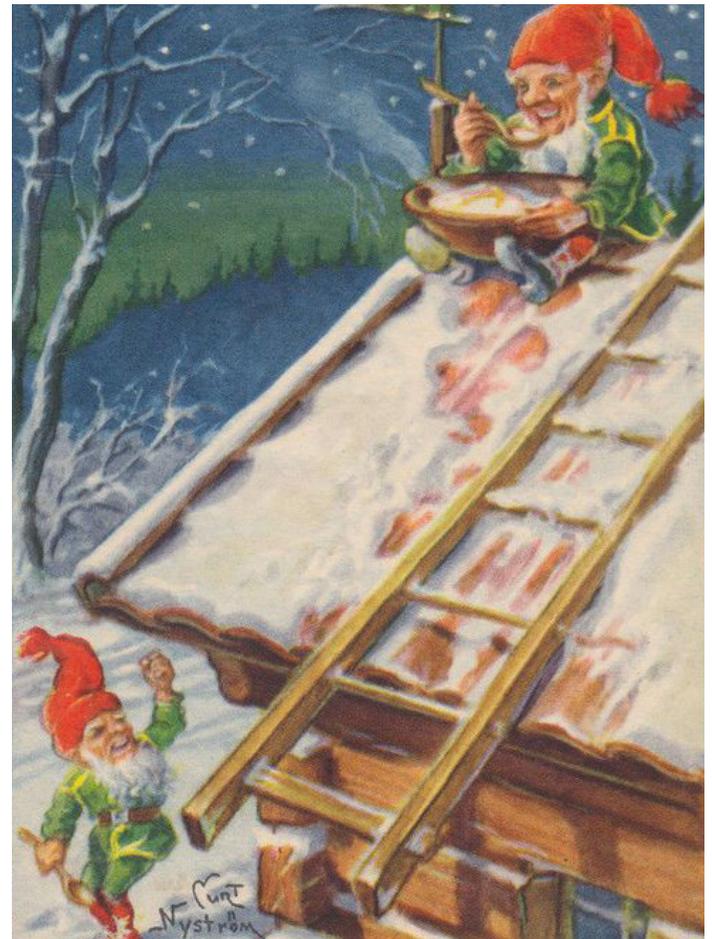
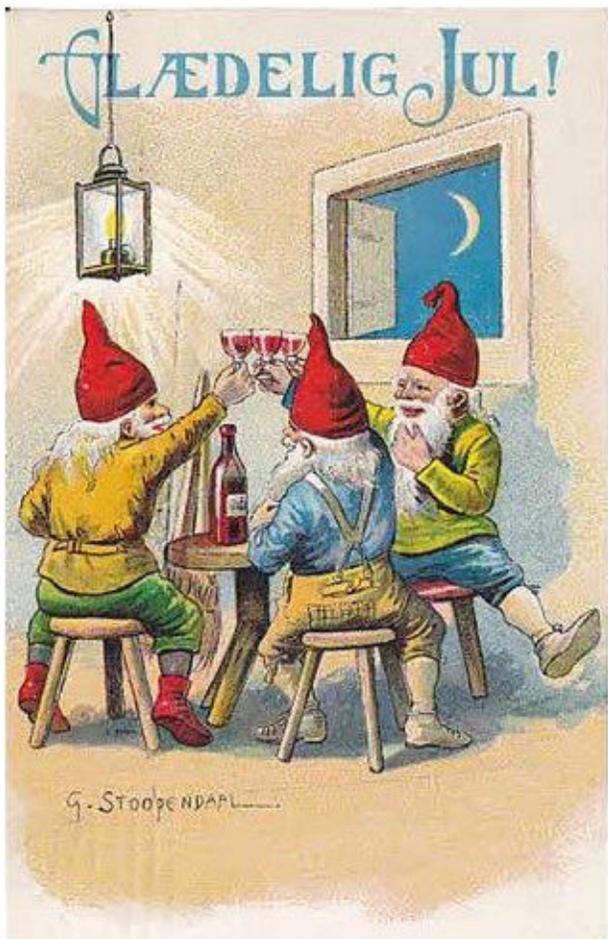
In 1933 her son, Curt Nyström Stoopendahl (1893-1965), followed in her footsteps and also became a popular postcard and poster artist, staying very close to his moth-

er's artistic style. Even his signature, "Curt Nyström", looked like his mother's. Likewise, her brother-in-law, Georg Stoopendaal, already in the beginning of the 19th century found postcards to be a good source of income, unlike his more serious paintings, and his Christmas cards are also clearly inspired by Jenny Nyström's.

Her artwork is in the public domain, it has been over 70 years since she passed away.



Christmas card with jultomte by Nyström, circa 1899



Jenny's brother-in-law, Georg Stoopendaal

Jenny's son, Curt Nyström Stoopendaal - similar style

more

Culture Corner: Ginger Bread House



The Ginger Bread House exhibition at Arkitekturmuseet - Museum of Architecture – is a popular tradition held annually around Christmas since 1990.

Photo Credits:
Tuukka Ervasti/imagebank.sweden.se



November's Socially Distanced Meeting

Pictures from Mona Steffen & Dorothy Burns





Mona Steffen



Grace & Kristina Foley



Lisa Eklund and Richard Heinstedt



Hanna & Roy Olson



Nathan Coddling



Delphine Trowbridge

Idioms

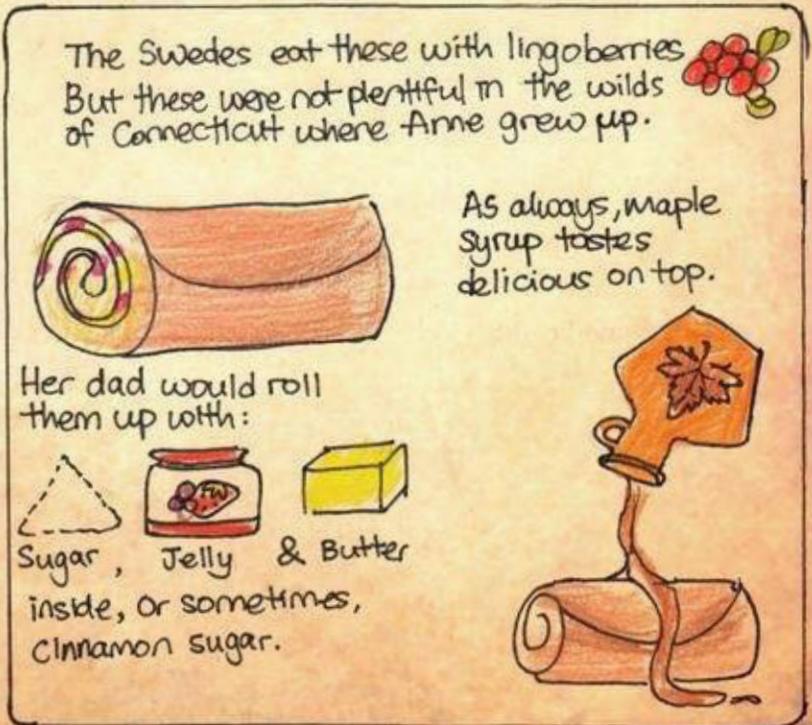
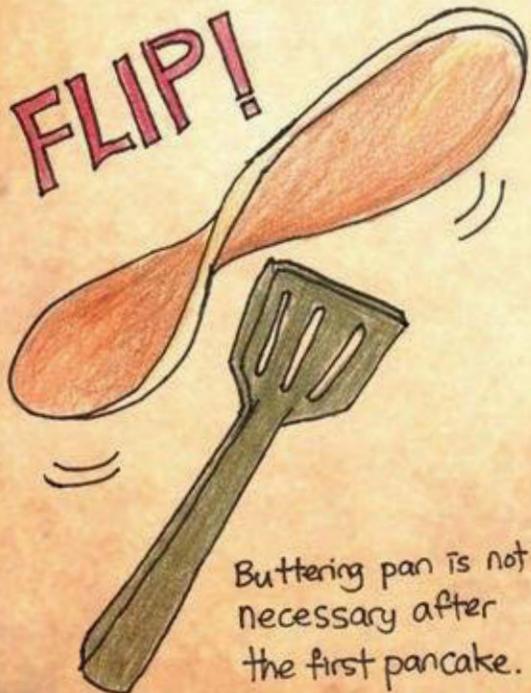
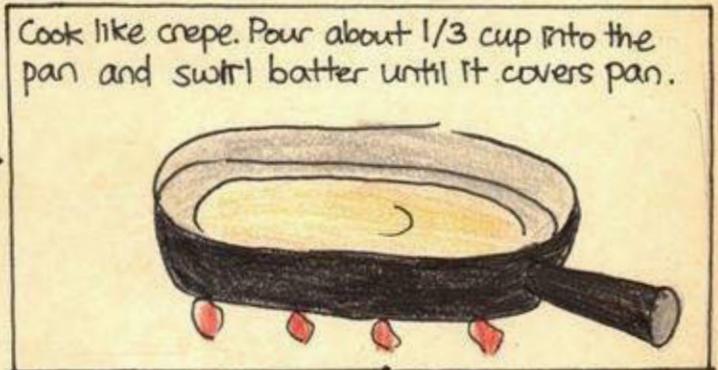
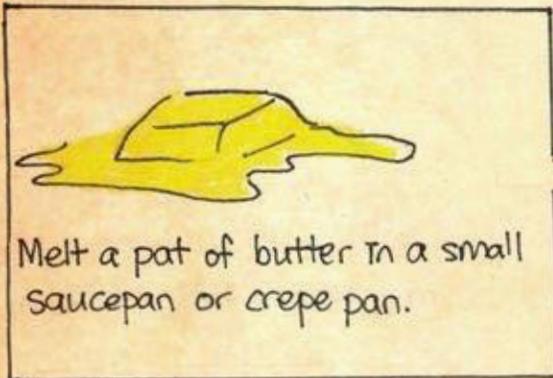
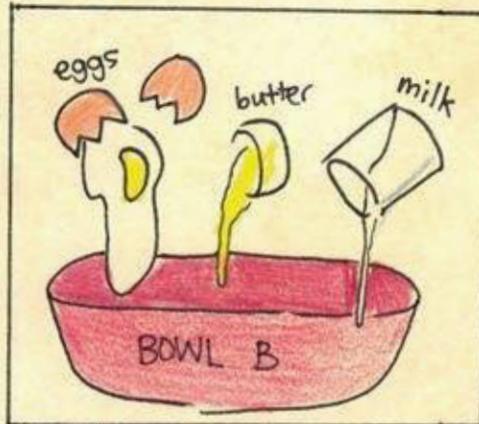
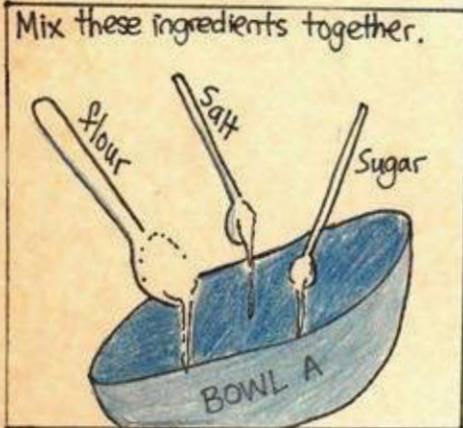
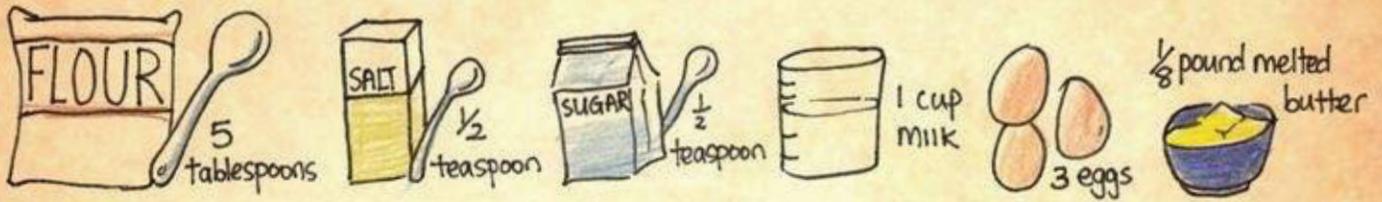


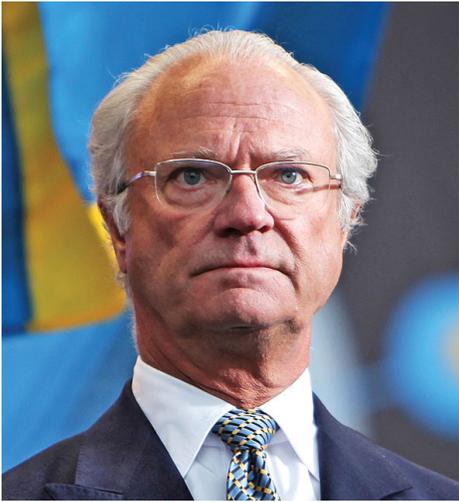
Idioms are the best. They are playful phrases we use to describe a situation by metaphor or figure of speech. The literal translations don't make sense and often leave non-native speakers scratching their heads – “Huh, what do they mean by saying it's raining cats and dogs?” There are several of these sayings that sound just as funny in Swedish. Many Swedish, as well as English, expressions are derived from passages in the Bible. “En ulv i fårakläder → a wolf in sheep's clothing” for example, referring to the warning of false prophets. Another common trait for idioms is rhyming or alliteration. This makes them easier to remember and more fun to use. For example “Lägga lök på laxen → to put onions on the salmon.” This phrase is similar to “rubbing salt in a wound,” or to make a bad situation worse.

Here are some more interesting ones. First is the Swedish, then the literal translation, followed by the English equivalent.

svenska	literal meaning	English equivalent or meaning
1. Lätt som en plätt	→ Easy as a pancake	→ Easy as pie
2. Skägget i brevlådan	→ The beard is in the mailbox	→ Caught in the act
3. Det är ingen ko på isen	→ There is no cow on the ice	→ Don't panic
4. Ge järnet	→ Give the iron	→ Give it your all
This saying comes of Stockholmsslang, “att dra full gas på motorcykel / to go full throttle on a motorcycle.”		
5. Glida in på en räkmacka	→ Slide in on a shrimp sandwich	→ Have an easy time of something, “You lucked out.”
6. På tal om trollen	→ Speaking of the troll	→ Speak of the devil
7. Inte för allt smör i Småland	→ Not for all the butter in Småland	→ Not for all the money in the world
This saying is often woodburned into a butter spreaders. Who has one of these?!		
8. Ta i trä	→ Grab wood	→ Knock on wood
9. Göra björntjänst	→ Do a bear's job	→ to do a big favor
This idiom can be used when someone does a favor that is unwarranted, or unnecessary		
10. Smaken är som baken, delad	→ Preference is like the rear end, split.	→ Basically, “to each their own.”

UNCLE KARL'S SWEDISH PANCAKES





1 Carl XVI Gustaf , King of Sweden
tee hee! couldn't resist...



2 Dorothy Burns



3 Andrea Tabinelli



4 Bertil (Bert) Winther



5 Wenke Ecklund



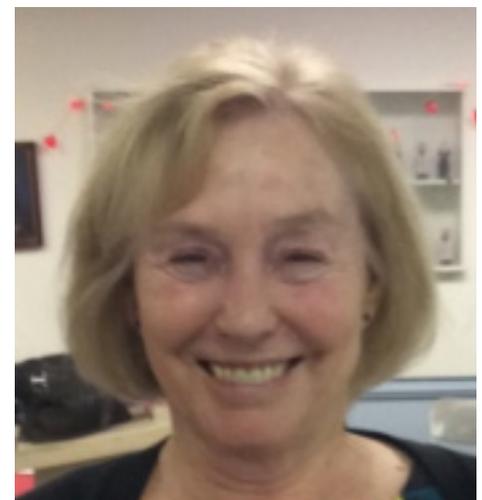
6 Nick Storch



7 Laurie Taylor



8 Lisa Eklund



9 Delphine Trowbridge



10 Natalie Taylor



13 Ann Heinstedt



14 Tiffany Storch



15 & 16 Jen & Alex Norman

11 & 12 Hubert and Sylva Pitters

*God Jul och Gott Nytt År!
Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!*