

Greetings from the President and Secretary of Skål Norden

Dear Skålleague of Norden.
Summer is already reached us – almost one month earlier than normally. This Spring has been very busy and at the same time we have been trying to implement those strategical steps what you have been chosen to be done among Skål International Area Norden. The strategic was introduced in our previous Newsletter in January 2016.

We hope we are able to meet at World Congress in Monaco next autumn and we could arrange similar discussion as we had last autumn in Torremolinos. How we could develop Area Norden.

This Skål International Norden Area Newsletter will focus of Riga Club.

Sustainable tourism was considered one of the key element for the Skål International to develop the organization in the future. There is new announcement for Skål International Sustainable Tourism Award 2016. Categories and timetable shown in this Newsletter.

Next Fall Helsinki Club is celebrating it's 80th year of existence and we are going to meet also in Monaco for World Congress!

Social media is also for your purpose. Try Facebook or LinkedIn.com. In both portals You'll find Skål Norden fan site.

Enna Paavola & Kari Halonen
Secretary President



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Skål Club Riga

Skål Club Riga was established 29.1.1998. The club received club number 644. There are currently 18 members listed in Skål International Riga Club according to the Skål Organization.



President of Skål Riga is Mrs. **Aira Andriksone**, aira.andriksone@inbox.lv. She has been having a long career in tourism. She is civil servant with long-term experience and leadership in: drafting of policy papers, laws and by-laws, governmental regulations, international agreements in the field of tourism and supervising of implementation of the tourism state policy; representing of Latvia to the United Nations World Tourism Organisation, European Commission's Tourism Advisory Committee, European Commission's Tourism Sustainability Group, Baltic 21 Tourism Task Force; international cooperation; project management; organizing and participating in international conferences and events with presentations and presiding of plenary/working sessions. Interested in projects, research as well advising on policy planning, tourism, and EU issues.

The Secretary is **Mr. Hardijs Madzulis**, hardijs@relaksture.lv, who has been

working for Relaks Tūre company. **Līga Aperane** is The Treasurer, līga@smartravel.lv. She is General Manager of Smart Travel in Latvia.

Riga for visitors

Riga is more than 800 years old. Each century has left its marks in the architecture in the Old Town and City Centre. Here the cultural heritage coexists with the quick pace of modern living.



More information about Riga, please check <http://www.liveriga.com/en/>

Tour operators and travel agencies in Latvia

This section lists travel service providers in Latvia. The service providers listed here are members of the Association of Latvian Travel Agents and operate according to the Association's quality criteria.

<http://www.latvia.travel/en/article/tour-operators-and-travel-agencies>

BaltTour 2017

The biggest travel trade event in Latvia takes place in February 2017.

<http://www.eventseye.com/fairs/f-balttour-4068-1.html>

Sustainable Tourism Awards 2016

Skål International is an Affiliate Member of the UNWTO whose mission is to promote the development of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism.

Now, in its 15th year, the Sustainable Tourism Awards, while highlighting best practices in tourism around the world, also serve the purpose of acquainting the world with this new concept that puts emphasis on the importance of the interaction of the physical, cultural and social environment, the traveller's responsibility and the need for active community participation for Sustainability.

Any company from the public and private sector, NGOs and government agencies worldwide are welcome to submit an entry in one of the nine available categories.

- tour operators
- urban accommodation
- rural accommodation
- transportation
- countryside and wildlife
- marine
- community and government projects
- major tourist attractions
- educational institutions/programmes and media

The deadline to submit application online is 30.6.2016 at 23.59 CET. There are no entry fees.

Applications online:

<https://form.jotformeu.com/SandraVera/sta2016>

More information: Sandra Vera,
sandra.vera@skal.org



RACING FORWARD ON GREEN GAS | NORWAY



Submitted by Fjord Line with the support of Skål International Bergen

Award collected by Jan Sunde, Past President of Skål International, on behalf of Fjord Line

One victory for Skål Club located in Norden area in 2015!

INVITATION: Skål International Helsinki Club – 80-year anniversary

”One of the oldest Skål Clubs in the organization, Helsinki Club is celebrating it’s 80th anniversary! Due to this reason Helsinki Club Board is organizing a special event to party and remember those have been part of this Skål family for past decades.”



Stefan Ekholm
President of
Helsinki Club

Date: 7.10.2016

Place: Hilton Strand Helsinki Hotel

Programme:

Welcome drink
Four course delicious dinner
Entertainment
Lottery for Beneficiary

Price: 74 euros/person

Price is not included: beverages (exluding Welcome Drink) + lottery tickets

This is also for friends and relatives of Skål members! All Skålleagues from Norden are invited for this great event!

The event is sponsored by Amadeus Finland and Hilton Strand Helsinki Hotel

AMADEUS



More information: skalhelsinki@skalfinland.com

Helsinki Club history – in short

Skål International Helsinki was founded in its current form 12th November 1948 becoming then the 45th Skål Club in the world.

The Helsinki Club has at present (May 23rd, 2016) 89 individual members who represent different travel organizations mainly in the Helsinki Metropolitan area. The current President is Mr. **Stefan Ekholm**.

The sixty years of the Club’s history include many interesting periods and events. **In 1974** the Helsinki Club hosted the **Skål World Congress** with Finland’s president, Mr Urho Kekkonen, as the patron of the event. Three club members have worked as World Presidents of Skål International. **Gunnar von Haartman** and **Kaj Lindblad**. The most recent of them, Mr **Birger Bäckman**, during 1989 – 1990. Birger is nowadays Honorary member of Skål Helsinki Club.

Today Helsinki Club is having a strategy for 2016 - 2020 which is giving guidelines in the future. The main goal is to have more members, providing interesting business and social events for Skål members and operating actively to promote sustainability and corporate social responsibility.



77th SKÅL INTERNATIONAL WORLD CONGRESS, MONACO – 29.10 – 2.11.2016

Registration form:
<http://www.skalcongress.org/#!registration/c1rd1>

Dear Skålleagues,

Skål International Monaco is delighted to invite you and your partner to enjoy the 77th Skål International World Congress that will be held in Monaco from 29 October to 2 November 2016.

REGISTRATION

COST*

HOTELS

Single registration in Luxury Hotel
 (4 nights package in single room)

€1755.00

Fairmont Monte Carlo (HQ)*
 Monte Carlo Bay Hotel & Resort*
 Hermitage Hotel Monte Carlo

Double registration in Luxury Hotel
 (4 nights package in twin or double room)

€2650.00

Single registration in
 First Class Hotel
 (4 nights package in single room)

€1580.00

Le Méridien Beach Plaza
 Columbus Monte Carlo
 Novotel Monte Carlo
 Riviera Marriot Hotel La Porte de Monaco

Double registration in
 First Class Hotel
 (4 nights package for twin or double room)

€2470.00

Congress only

Young Skål congress only (50% discount)

€895.00

No hotel included

* VAT Included

€447.50

No hotel included

Skål International Norden

President

Kari Halonen kari.halonen@skalfinland.com

Secretary

Enna Paavola

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We are using the Finnish Skål website for communication:

<http://www.skalfinland.com/skal-norden/>

Social media:

We have been adding new social media sites for those who prefer to use modern communication tools:

Facebook: Skål Norden

LinkedIn: Skål Norden
