



Banish the Winter Blahs with This Wonderful Chicken Stew Recipe from the Newly Published *Gustie Gourmet II* Cookbook!

Aegean Chicken Stew

- 2 chicken breasts, skinned and boned
- ¼ c. flour
- Olive oil and butter
- 4 oz. fresh mushrooms, quartered
- 1 – 14 oz. can whole tomatoes, undrained
- ¼ c. sherry
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- ½ tsp. salt
- ¼ tsp. dried basil
- ½ tsp. freshly ground black pepper
- ½ c. extra-large pitted black olives
- 1 – 6 oz. jar marinated artichoke hearts, drained
- Cooked brown rice, if desired

Cut each chicken breast into a least 5 pieces. Dredge each piece in flour. Heat oil and sauté chicken. Remove chicken from pan and sauté mushroom in the same pan, adding butter as needed. Reserve mushrooms on another plate.

Blot up excess fat in the sauté pan carefully so that the flavor bits are not disturbed. Add tomatoes, sherry, garlic, and seasonings to the pan. Simmer for about 10 minutes.

Add chicken, olives, and artichoke hearts. Simmer another 15 minutes or so. Add more tomato or sherry if you like more sauce in the stew.

Serve over brown rice, if desired. Serves 4–6

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A Royal Affair 2013: A Good Time Was Had by All!

JAN MICHALETZ, *A Royal Affair* Co-Chair

In the 1960s, my hometown newspaper ended many “social columns” with these words: “A good time was had by all.” Those words also sum up the sentiments expressed by many who attended *A Royal Affair*. The event, held on November 16, 2013, drew several hundred friends of the College. They visited, ate, shopped at silent and live auctions, and danced at a gala in support of the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library.

A few changes were notable: The venue was the new Radisson Blu Mall of America. The contemporary and chic hotel provided a dramatic change from our long tradition at the Radisson South. Guests bid on silent auction items using their smartphones or special electronic bidding devices. For those who needed technical support, a trained crew of students and College staff provided assistance. Also new this year were a “wine wall” and gift card “games,” as well as a fun Gustavus photo booth. Gus the Lion, sporting his new tuxedo, was eager to appear in many photos!

The Rev. Brian Fragodt (Class of 1981) served as the master of ceremonies. His humor and wit made the dinner program flow seamlessly. Our professional auctioneer was assisted by 2012 Gustavus grad Chloe Radcliffe, who demonstrated her speaking skills and sense of fun. Gustavus alumna (1983) Kim Beyer Fragodt and her quintet provided great vocal music, as well as tunes for dancing after the dinner. The dance floor was full until the end of the evening!

Special tributes were given to Lois Allen ’59 and Kelvin Miller ’73. With many years of service and dedication to

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From Your President . . .

Interpretation is a gift. We are fortunate to have opportunities to interpret. Yet, we are challenged and drawn to understand the meaning behind the written word—to be in sync with the author.

Recently, I was privileged to tour and view the remarkable Japanese art from the Clark Collections, “The Audacious Eye,” at the Minneapolis Institute of Art. The docent explained that one of the beautiful and intricate scrolls told stories from *The Tales of Genji*, thought by scholars to be one of the oldest historic novels in the world. The artistic interpretations were done years later, and now are being viewed (interpreted) centuries later. It is exciting. But it is humbling to think that there is so much more for me to understand contextually to justly learn about either the scrolls or this notable literature from the 11th century.

A related thought: My husband and I went to see *Saving Mr. Banks*, another study in interpretation between the author of *Mary Poppins* and Walt Disney. A delightful, yet profound take on what it means to interpret literature and respect the author’s intentions, especially in light of the film audience.

We look ahead to our Spring Author Day on April 16 with Minnesota author Sarah Stonich. And on May 2, 3, and 4, our fourth annual *Books in Bloom* will feature creative floral designers’ interpretations of books and other resources from the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library.

Gustavus Library Associates is celebrating a wonderfully successful and memorable *A Royal Affair* on Nov. 16, 2013. Thanks to all who attended and helped support the event in so many ways. A highlight of the evening was President Ohle’s exciting announcement that the College is developing plans to renovate the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library. You can read more about this, and many other interesting things, on the Gustavus website at gustavus.edu.

Thank you for your continued and valued support of Gustavus Library Associates. See you at an upcoming event!

Sincerely,



Sheryl Johnson, co-president

This newsletter is published three times during the academic year by the Office of Marketing and Communication, Gustavus Adolphus College, under the supervision of Dean Wahlund, director of communication services and special events and executive director of GLA. For further information about Gustavus Library Associates membership and activities, contact Wahlund or Dana Lamb at 507-933-7550 or e-mail marketing@gustavus.edu.



For years, GLA has hosted a Membership Tea in St. Peter. On September 12, 2013, we reached across the state to host our first-ever membership event in Duluth.



Members of the 2013 St. Lucia court are pictured here sampling lutefisk at the Festival of St. Lucia Luncheon in December.

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display—she comes to terms with her past and tries to determine how to put herself back together and face the present. *Booklist* calls it “a subtle, lovely evocation of the transforming power of love,” and writer Nuala O’Faolain says the book should be read by “any woman who ever had her heart cracked open by a man.”

Shelter (2011) is a memoir about Stonich’s need to move away, literally, from a failed marriage, buy some land, and build a little cabin (between Tower and Ely) where she could reclaim a bit of her heritage and offer her then-12-year-old son, Sam, a good-sized chunk of life in great northern outdoors. She also writes of Minnesota’s lumber barons, government Indian schools, the perils of Internet dating, spiders in the outhouse, and a host of other musings. It’s a story told with wisdom, humor, and a deep sensitivity for the places to which we choose to anchor ourselves.

Once again, as with last spring’s speaker, Peter Geye, we celebrate Up-North Minnesota with a local author who lives it and knows it by heart. Please join us for Author Day, April 16. Mark your calendar, and watch for your invitation in the mail, and bring a friend.

Myths and Dreams and Plans continued from page 6

to focus more of our purchases on academic sources, but that must be broadly defined, and in addition to scholarly sources we have movies from James Bond to Pedro Almodovar, we have books from *Goodnight Moon* to *The Hangman’s Daughter*. There is a lot of “fun” and a lot of culture in our collections.

Because of this we are far from done with our planning. We will talk to students, we will ask the faculty for input, we will turn to the membership of GLA for ideas and inspirations for how to renovate and expand this library building. . . . Stay tuned, and please send us your ideas.

COMING EVENTS

BUILDING BRIDGES CONFERENCE “Disposable Communities? Demanding Environmental Justice”

Saturday, March 8, 2014 | 9:30 a.m.
Christ Chapel
Gustavus Adolphus College
*Order tickets online at
gustavustickets.com*

GUSTAVUS MUSIC SHOWCASE

Sunday, March 16, 2014 | 3:30 p.m.
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church,
Mahtomedi
*No ticket required; a freewill offering
will be accepted*

GLA AUTHOR DAY

Sarah Stonich, Minnesota writer
Wednesday, April 16, 2014 | 9:30 a.m.
Edina Country Club
*Invitation to follow
Order tickets online at
gustavustickets.com*

MAYDAY! PEACE CONFERENCE “Tibet: Finding Hope in Exile”

Wednesday, April 30, 2014 | 10 a.m.
Christ Chapel
Gustavus Adolphus College
*Full-day event; open to the public
without charge*

BOOKS IN BLOOM

Friday–Sunday, May 2–4, 2014
Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library
Gustavus Adolphus College
Open to the public without charge

Myths and Dreams and Plans

DAN MOLLNER, Head Librarian

Last summer, the library faculty spent some time with a team of architects from the Twin Cities and with other people on campus to discuss initial plans for a possible renovation and expansion to the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library. Our building opened in 1972 and, aside from a few tweaks made in the post-tornado clean-up, it looks largely as it did when it was built. It is a lovely building in many ways—with open floors and big windows that squeaked in just before the Energy Crisis. Yet, it does fall short of present day needs and designs.

Our building is lacking in group study spaces, in rooms for tutoring and for studying alone. That open floor plan allowed for flexibility in moving shelves of books and magazines around, but it comes at the expense of such collaborative spaces. We need comfy furniture as we serve in part as the campus living room, and we expect our students to sit for long periods of time reading and writing. We need improved lighting and electrical outlets for everyone’s eyesight and the thousands of devices Gustavus Technology Services tells us are on campus—and that we see EVERYWHERE in the library. We need improved teaching spaces and spaces for better traffic flow. We need improved archival storage and class space. It would be nice to have a 24-hour study space and somewhere to get a cookie and a cup of coffee or a can of pop.

Why? Why do I say we need these spaces? Nobody comes to the library anymore, do they? Well, OK, maybe the literature students still do, but no one in the sciences uses the library, do they? Everything is available online! Perhaps a few statistics will help debunk such myths: Last year more than 220,000 people walked into the Folke Bernadotte Library. Other buildings on campus may have more traffic, but those are classroom buildings with scheduled classes or places like the Dining Service. People chose to come here. We offered 137 library instruction sessions for 2,135 students, and there were many other classes using our rooms to watch films and meet on their own without library staff helping them directly. We support every discipline taught on campus. A significant amount of our budget supports the sciences, largely these days through very expensive databases and electronic journals, but we see many students in the building studying on the quiet floor, groups reviewing for biology exams, others going over chemistry problems and the like. We provide a place to meet, a place to study for all Gustavus students. More than 23,000 books, movies, music scores, and journals were checked out of the library by patrons. Hundreds of thousands of searches were conducted on the databases to which we subscribe—made available over the Internet to be sure, but paid for dearly with library budgets.

The fact is, a library is more than information infrastructure. Libraries have long been more than just about scrolls, or manuscripts, or books, or computer bytes. Although data storage was certainly the genesis of the library, the FBML is far more than that. It is interaction with that gathered information, it is the quiet comfortable place to question, to read and think and write, and it is the chance to discover the unfamiliar and to work with others of similar and disparate interests that have all made the library an important center on campus.

It has always been the belief of those who work in the FBML that this is not just “our” library. It is the students’ library, it is the faculty’s library, and it belongs to the employees and alums of the College. Our small acquisitions budgets cause us



Elaine and Milt Brostrom greet a friend at the November 16, 2013, *A Royal Affair* event.



The *Les Misérables* flower arrangement from 2013’s *Books in Bloom* showcased the French tri-color. This year’s event will be held May 2–4, 2014.

Royal Affair continued from page 1

creating ARAs in the past, these two have built a solid foundation for our organization. Elaine Brostrom received a tribute as the only charter member in attendance that evening.

The BIGGEST surprise of the evening came in President Ohle’s remarks. He announced a plan for a campaign to renovate and update our library. GLA will be integral in helping raise money for this.

Among the many highlights of the evening was the first appearance of the newly printed GLA cookbook. And with the click of a button on the bidding device, guests were able to add copies to their purchase list.

Work has already begun on our next gala, to be held in mid-November 2015. Our motto for that event will be “A good time will be had by all!”

Springtime is Books in Bloom Time

MARISA M. SCHLOER, *Books in Bloom* Chair

Books in Bloom will celebrate its fourth year at the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library on the Gustavus campus. It is a must-see literary event at which literature, media, and other library resource materials are interpreted in stunningly designed floral arrangements.

Attendees will have the opportunity to visually explore classic and modern literature and media. Via “bloom” sponsorships of \$500 each, Gustavus Library Associates will direct funds to enable the library to expand its academic resources, helping prepare students for lives of leadership and service.

Last year’s crowd totaled nearly 750 attendees including community residents, Honors Day guests, students, faculty, and friends and family of GLA.

Books in Bloom is open to the general public the following hours: Friday, May 2, 3 p.m.–6 p.m.; Saturday, May 3, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; and Sunday, May 4, 11a.m.–2 p.m. Gustavus students and GLA members will provide guided tours. The event is free of charge.

In hosting *Books in Bloom*, GLA affirms its mission to promote literature, learning, and the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library.

*“I felt both peaceful and proud designing
with Marlys Johnson the simple example of
the garden we believed fit the image of Gail
Tsukiyama’s The Samurai’s Garden.”*

– Kay Moline, designer



Gustavus Library Associates is proud to introduce the newly published *Gustie Gourmet II* cookbook. With nearly 450 kitchen-tested recipes, this second-edition cookbook is a must in every household and a perfect gift when celebrating a special occasion!

Order your cookbook from the Gustavus Book Mark at 1-800-847-9307, or online at bookmark.gustavus.edu. The cost is \$25.00 (including tax) plus a \$5.00 postage and handling fee.

Bon appétit!

Banish the winter blahs with the wonderful chicken stew recipe on the back cover of this issue.

Keeping Up

Spring 2007 Author Day guest **Matthew Sanford** and his Mind Body Solutions non-profit, which teaches breathing, moving, and balance to people with disabilities, were featured in the *Star Tribune*’s “Duets” on November 29, 2013. “Duets” is an occasional feature that celebrates unique relationships between two people—in this case Sanford and Bruce Kramer, former dean of St. Thomas’s College of Education, who was diagnosed with ALS in 2010.

Matt Rasmussen, former visiting assistant professor of English and a 1998 Gustavus grad, had his first volume of poetry, *Black Aperture*, short-listed for a National Book Award last November. It had previously won the 2012 Walt Whitman Award.

Chuck Logan, Fall 2006 Author Day guest, was featured in the Variety section of the November 24 *Star Tribune* as the movie based on his sixth and most recent “Broker” thriller, *Homefront*, was about to open in theaters nationwide.

Spring 1998 Author Day speaker **Ann Patchett**’s new book, *This Is the Story of a Happy Marriage*, her ninth in the past two decades, is a collection of miscellaneous non-fiction pieces written over 20 years.

Celebrating Membership in GLA’s 37th Year!

We are often asked, “What are the benefits of being a GLA member?” Benefits include invitations to a variety of Gustavus Library Associates events and the Ex Libris newsletter, but the real benefit is that—whatever membership gift level you chose—the entire amount goes directly to the library’s acquisition budget to purchase books, films, technology, and other academic resources for Gustavus students and faculty. Your “membership gift” helps to further strengthen the Folke Bernadotte

The Kitchen Boy, a historical novel about the final days of Russian Tsar Nicholas II and his family by Spring 2006 Author Day guest **Robert Alexander**, is being made into a feature film to be shot this summer in Lithuania.

The Lighthouse Road, by Minnesota author and Spring 2013 Author Day guest **Peter Geye**, will be included among 35 titles for the third annual World Book Night USA on April 23, 2014, when volunteers will give away 500,000 books at random.

An essay by **Lorna Landvik** (Fall 2002 Author Day) is among the essays collected in *Fried Walleye and Cherry Pie: Midwestern Writers on Food*, edited by Peggy Wolff and published by the University of Nebraska Press.

Associate Professor of English **Rebecca Taylor Fremo**, who led an Author’s Night writing workshop for GLA members in Spring 2012, received the 2013 Edgar Carlson Award during commencement exercises for distinguished teaching at Gustavus Adolphus College.

Memorial Library at Gustavus. That’s a true benefit!

To date, there are 225 active memberships. We welcomed eight new members in the first two quarters of the 2013–14 year.

The 2014 membership year began on June 1, 2013. New and renewed memberships are welcomed until May 1, 2014, and you are invited to join online at gustavus.edu/gla.



Spring 2014 Author Day with speaker Sarah Stonich, will be held on Wednesday, April 16 at Edina Country Club.

Author Day Heads ‘Up North’ Once More

MIM SPONBERG KAGOL, Author Day Chair

After reading just one of her books, I knew I wanted Sarah Stonich on my bookshelves, so I immediately went out and bought the other three. It was money well spent, as I have read and reread them and passed them around among friends.

Now I get to share them—and the writer—with you. You can hear and meet this delightful speaker and graceful, thoughtful writer at GLA’s Spring Author Day on Wednesday, April 16, at Edina Country Club.

Ms. Stonich, a Minneapolis, Minn. writer who spent many childhood summers near Ely, first came to my attention after a photo and article in the Minneapolis *StarTribune* last year persuaded me to get ahold of *Vacationland*, her latest book. It’s a collection of stories either taking place in or orbiting around a rundown resort called Naledi, located in fictional Hatchet Inlet near the Canadian border. The owner, a taciturn Czech immigrant

named Vaclav Machutova, finds himself guardian to his only grandchild, Meg, “his lone soft spot,” and the stories move separately yet seamlessly between her childhood summers at the resort and her adult life as a successful painter, living in Chicago but pulled irresistibly back to the waters of Hatchet Lake. Each tale is a surprise, and yet feels like the perfect “next story,” and all work together to create not just Meg’s and Vaclav’s lives, but those of the people they live and work beside.

Stonich’s gift for making a cast of varied characters come to life and seem as real as your own family and neighbors (especially if you’re a Minnesota Up-Norther) is astonishing. And her gifts for description are so subtle, wry, hilarious, and accurate you’ll find yourself looking up from the page and marveling, then looking around for someone to read them to. *Vacationland* makes you feel anew what a gift it is to be alive, being with other people and just moving around in the world.

In *These Granite Islands*, her first novel, Stonich tells the poignant story of a 99-year-old woman on her deathbed recalling the events of the summer of 1936, when she was an Iron Range wife and mother, and her husband bought land, specifically a five-acre island, that they couldn’t afford. What happens when he and their young sons spend the next summer on the island, leaving Isobel and her daughter alone in town, would forever change the course of all their lives. Translated into nine languages, the book is, in its publisher’s words, “the gripping story of a friendship, a portrait of a marriage, and a meditation on the tragedy of loss.”

The Ice Chorus, her second novel, tells of a woman whose vacation love affair ended her 18-year marriage and sent her to relocate in a remote village on the west coast of Ireland. As Lise interacts with the members of this new community—again, Stonich’s gift for rendering charming and utterly authentic characters is on full