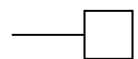


WACS European Continental NORTH Director's Monthly Report

Prepared February 2006

By Gissur Gudmundsson





Memo to WACS members

27th of February 2006

Dear President Metz, members of the WACS Executive Board and members of WACS,

I am pleased to send you the monthly report of activities and relevant information from WACS member countries in the northern Europe region.

January and February has been busy for me, I have been in Estonia, Denmark, Finland, Belorussia, Georgia, London and Turkey. I am writing this report from Turkey where I am judging together with many colleagues from around the world. This event is very special - it is held over four days and every day there are competitions from 8am until 7pm and every minute is fully utilised for competition. I don't recall having eaten so much food in such a short time! I would like to share with everyone how happy I am to see my friends from UK working along with chefs from Turkey to make this event great. Ken Frazer, Trudy Hyde and few others chefs from UK had been here a couple of days before to help with organising and making this a great event. They have done this for three years now and I'd like to congratulate GUL from Turkey for such a great show and competition.

One of the reasons I did not send any report in January was because I was busy with so many other things and now I will share my experience with you. At the beginning of January, I went to Denmark where I had a dinner with Prince Joachim and the new national team of Denmark. It was great - the food was outstanding and the team is lucky to have the Prince as their big supporter.

After Denmark, I went to Estonia to attend a meeting with Electrolux and Estonian Chefs Association about the World Master Semifinal in North Europe. I am happy to say that this event will be held at the end of October 2007 in Tallinn and Electrolux will supply all the equipment for us. More news about this will be given out at the congress.

Then I went to Georgia, Tbilisi to meet and judge for the Georgian Chefs Association. They have just recently formed a chef's association and this was their first competition. What surprised me is that in this country with a population of many millions of people, they don't have a culinary school. I know it is planning for their first school later this year but I personally think that WACS should be more involved in helping countries like Georgia; they want help and they are more than willing to learn. I found people in Georgia friendly and I was happy to meet some of them again in Istanbul three weeks later.

In middle of February, I went to Belorussia to attend a meeting with the board because they are coming in to WACS as new members. I was welcomed with open arms and held a board meeting with the president of the chefs association, the second trade minister and was given the opportunity to see the cooking school and competition that was held over one day. I am happy that Belorussia is coming in to WACS and I am sure that many of you will have the opportunity to try the good hospitality in their country.



I was in Finland just a couple of days after I came from Belorussia where the Nordic Chefs Association had their board meeting. We were guests of the Finland Chefs Association and took part in the congress where a new president was elected. It's always a pleasure to come to Finland and most of you in Europe will have this opportunity in October this year where we will hold our European meeting. Nordic Chefs Association and chefs in Denmark, Finland, Norway and Iceland are extremely happy that Ferdinand Metz has announced Harald Åsa as a committee member of the WACS culinary committee.

I had the chance to stop over in London on my way to Turkey at the same time when Hotel Olympia was held and Brian Cotterill and Bobby spent the whole day with me. It was great meeting them and see the competition over there. Much thanks to Peter Griffins, Brian and Bobby for taking care of me.

Now with the upcoming Congress in Auckland, I look forward to seeing you all again. I hope we will have a congress that will bring WACS stronger into the future.

To my friends and colleagues, take care and I look forward to seeing you around the world.

A Chefs regard,

Gissur Gudmundsson

President of the Nordic and Icelandic Chefs Association
WACS European Continental Director



News from European Continental NORTH



The Azerbaijan National Culinary Assn.



Kokkencheffernes Forening www.kfdk.dk



Finnish Chef Association www.chefs.fi



Chefs and Cooks Circle www.chefsandcookscircle.co.uk



Icelandic Chefs Association and Nordic Chefs Association www.nkf-chefs.com



Panel of Chefs of Ireland



Latvian Cooks Association LPKA www.latviancooks.lv



Norges Kokkemesteres Landsforening www.norgeskokker.no



Russian Interregional Culinary Association



Sveriges Kokschefer Forening www.swedishchefs.se



Association of Culinary Workers of Ukraine



The Welsh Culinary Association www.welshculinaryassociation.com



 Federation of Chefs Scotland. www.scottishchefs.com

The present member status in eats of the country from Northern Europe:

Countries	Members	Regions
Azerbaijan	498	0
Denmark	400	4
Finland	1024	14
Great Britain	2000	15
Iceland	120	0
Ireland	200	6
Latvia	400	0
Norway	1400	22
Russia	?	37
Scotland	250	2
Sweden	2500	16
Ukraine	5000	22
Wales	200	0

Applying Countries	Members	Regions
Estonia		
Bial Russia	125	
Lithuania		

Please if some of this information is wrong or they need a update please email me and I will correct them.