

THE VASA STAR

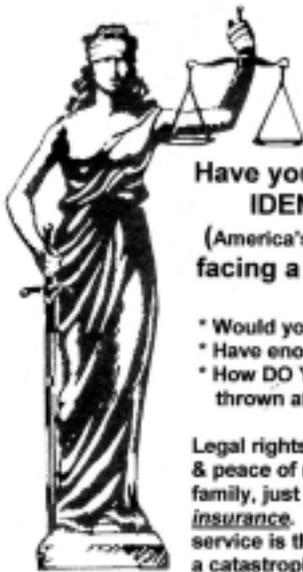


Vasastjärnan

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2008



Official publication of
THE VASA ORDER OF AMERICA
A Swedish-American Fraternal Organization
Organized September 18, 1896



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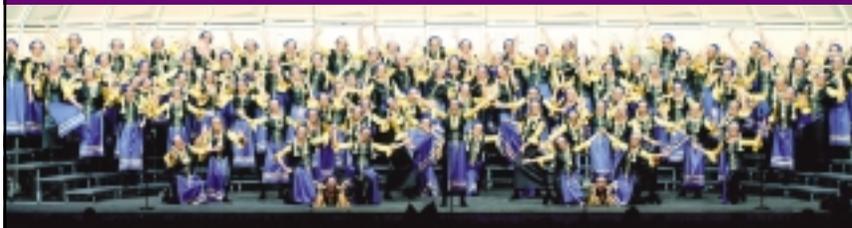
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Join Harborlites for our 47th Annual Show

How Swede It Is!

With our special guests from Sweden,
The Rönninge Show Chorus and SALT



Saturday, November 1, 2008



SALT
2007 Sweet Adelines
International Quartet Champions



OC Times
2008 International Barbershop
Harmony Society Quartet Champions

An evening of magical harmony will be yours as you join the International Champion Harborlites Chorus on the eve of their return to the International Stage. Come experience the music, the energy, and the passion of this renowned vocal ensemble.

This fabulous show will include performances by our special guests from Sweden, **The Rönninge Show Chorus**, in their only Southern California appearance; and **SALT**, the 2007 Sweet Adelines International Quartet Champions; **OC Times**, 2008 Barbershop Harmony Society International Quartet Champions; **SparX**, 12th place 2008 International Quartet; and **Spirit**, 2008 Region 11 Quartet Champions.

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1-949-470-9377 or www.harborliteschorus.org/calendar_events



2005 & 2008 International Chorus Champions
Sweet Adelines International



The Grand Master's Message



Rolf Bergman

Vasa brothers and sisters!

Welcome back after the summer season! Many lodges do not have meetings during the summer months but you should now be back with lodge meetings and activities in full swing. Marty's and my summer was interesting as we hosted the 16-year old granddaughter of Marty's cousin for a month. Paulina enjoyed her time even though she does not speak English too well yet; it was better than our Polish! She participated in the bus trip sponsored by our lodge to the *Lake Erie Islands* and also went with us to Jamestown, NY, for their *Scandinavian Festival* where *The Vasa Voices* (Nobel-Monitor Lodge #130's mixed-voice choir) sang. Many of our lodge members enjoyed having a charming young lady along on the trips.

The only district convention this fall is that of *DL Pennsylvania #9*, my home district, which celebrates its 100th anniversary meeting the last weekend of September. It will be held in downtown Washington, DC, at the same hotel contracted for the *Grand Lodge Convention* in 2010.

Included in this issue of *The Vasa Star* is the information on the *Grand Lodge Scholarship Program* for 2009 as well as the Grand Secretary's and audited Grand Treasurer's reports for the last fiscal year which ended April 30, 2008. If you have any questions on these reports please call or send me or the Grand Secretary a note.

You should have received the *Vasa Education Stamp* packet in the mail by now; if not it will be coming shortly. Please read my letter enclosed in the packet and give a generous donation to the *Education Fund*. Your donations provide the major portion of the income needed to fund the scholarship programs for our college students and our language study at *Sjölunden*. It also funds the \$200 annual support given by the *Grand Lodge* to every *Children's Club*. Thanks to Jake Gruel, GLEBM, Central Region, who provided the picture used for the stamp, and to Tore Kellgren, GLEBM, Western Region, who designed the stamp.

I also wish to thank all of you who generously donated about \$13,000 to the *Sjölunden* building project in the fall of 2007. As you remember the stamp design focused on the *Sjölunden* project and we asked you to support that effort. We will have an article in one of the coming *Vasa Star* issues on the building project.

I am excited about the distribution of *The Vasa Star* in Sweden that begins with this issue of the magazine. For the first time we will be printing *The Vasa Star* in Sweden and mailing directly from the printer to the Swedish members homes instead of shipping *The Vasa Star* from *Zimmermann* by bulk mail to Sweden for delivery to members at the lodge

meeting. Thank you to Tore Tellberg, GLEBM, Sweden, who did all the preparatory work with the printing company and the Swedish post office too for the arrangements in Sweden. Thank you too to Cathy Anderson, *Vasa Star Circulation Manager*, who entered the roughly 2500 Swedish family names and addresses into the data base for mailing.

Vasa Syskon!

Välkomna tillbaka efter sommaren! Många loger träffas inte under sommarmånaderna men är nu återigen aktiva och tillbaka med sina logemöten. Marty's och min sommar var intressant eftersom vi hade besök av och tog hand om ett 16-årigt barnbarn till en av Marty's kusiner från Polen under en månad. Paulina trivdes under sin vistelse trots att hennes engelska ännu inte är så bra, men den var bättre än vår polska! Hon deltog i en bussresa som vår loge arrangerade till *Lake Erie öarna* och följde också med oss till Jamestown, New York, till *Skandinavien Festivalen* där *The Vasa Voices* (Logen Nobel-Monitor Nr. 130's blandade sångkör) sjöng. Våra logemedlemmar tyckte det var trevligt att ha en sådan charmerande ung dam med på resorna.

Det enda distriktsmötet som hålls under hösten är *DL Pennsylvania Nr. 9*, mitt hemdistrikt, och som firar 100-års jubileum sista helgen i september. Det kommer att vara i Washington, DC, på samma hotell som *Storlogesmötet* kommer att hållas år 2010.

I denna upplaga av *The Vasa Star* finns information över *Storlogens Stipendier* inför 2009 samt *Storlogesekreterarens* och *Kassörens* granskade årsberättelser för kalenderåret som avslutades den 30 april, 2008. Eventuella frågor skickas till mig eller *Storlogens* sekreterare.

Ni borde ha erhållit ett paket innehållande *Vasa frimärken* i posten, om inte, så kommer det snart. Jag vill uttrycka ett varmt tack till Jake Gruel MSLER, Midwest Region, som bidragit med bilden som vi använt till frimärket och Tore Kellgren MSLER, Western Region, som designade frimärket.

Jag är entusiastisk inför denna upplaga av *The Vasa Star* eftersom den för första gången kommer att tryckas och postas direkt i Sverige till svenska Vasamedlemmar istället för att skickas från vårt tryckeri här i USA. Ett varmt tack till Tore Tellberg, MSLER Sverige, som arrangerade alla förberedelser i samband med detta när det gäller det svenska tryckeriet samt posttillstånd i Sverige. Ett hjärtligt tack också till Cathy Anderson, *Vasastjärnans Distributions Chef*, som införde ca 2500 svenska namn samt deras adresser.

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10% discount for Vasa Lodges and Members

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Letter from the Editor

Where does the time go? Many of us probably ask that same question. We're sitting here starting to think about Christmas shopping even though we haven't celebrated Halloween or Thanksgiving.

Back in 2002, I produced my very first issue of *The Vasa Star* and it is now exactly 6 years ago. A lot has happened in our lives since then; our oldest is a senior at college this year while our middle child is a freshman. Thank goodness our youngest is only entering fourth grade!

I have lived here in the USA about 30 years and a lot has happened in Sweden during those years that I have been gone. In the article titled *Swedish Education Delegation Visits LA* you can read about the development of the Swedish population and that has created a collaboration regarding immigration. Read and understand how important it is to treasure our culture and preserve our traditions. The article further makes a point about how valuable *The Vasa Order of America Organization's* job is; its various functions, the collaboration between Sweden, USA and Canada, and the importance of attracting the attention of our youth regarding Vasa. The three representatives from the local government of Malmö, Sweden, that visited Los Angeles thought that we probably knew more about their own traditions than they did. Imagine that!

Laura Severson de la Torre, a teacher in Los Angeles that hosted the Swedes during the visit and also wrote the article says, "I was grateful for my membership in VASA. I realized that cultural awareness is such a precious thing..."

Nordic Folk Lodge #761 has impressed us by their interest in collaborating with the American and Swedish youth e.g. through their website www.nordifolk.com; read about it in this issue.

Finally I would like to remind you how important it is to take time and "stop and smell the roses", in the midst of all stress.

Marie

Note: Pictures submitted electronically need to be scanned as JPEG, at a minimum resolution of 300 DPI in order to reproduce well in *The Vasa Star*. Pictures that are mailed should be of good quality and no newspaper clippings. Thank You!

Brev från Redaktören

Var går tiden? Det undrar säkert många av oss. Nu sitter vi här och börjar fundera så smått över julklappar fastän vi fortfarande inte firat vare sig Halloween eller Thanksgiving.

År 2002 gjorde jag min första upplaga av *The Vasa Star* och det är nu alltså precis 6 år sedan. Mycket har hänt sen dess och nu går vår äldsta sista året på college, medan mellanbarnet går första året. Tur att vi har minstingen som börjar fjärde klass!

Jag har bott här i USA i ungefär 30 år och det är mycket som har hänt i Sverige under den tiden jag varit borta. I artikeln med titeln *Swedish Education Delegation Visits LA* kan ni läsa om utvecklingen av Sveriges befolkning och som skapat ett samarbete rörande immigration. Läs och förstå hur värdefullt det är för oss att värna om vår kultur samt bevara våra traditioner. Artikeln poängterar vidare hur viktig *Vasa Organisationens* arbete är; dess funktion och samarbete mellan Sverige, USA och Kanada, dessutom vikten av att väcka undomarnas intresse för Vasa. De tre svenska representanter från den lokala regeringen i Malmö som besökte Los Angeles påpekade att vi vet mer om deras egna traditioner än de gjorde. Tänk på det!

Laura Severson de la Torre som är lärare i Los Angeles tog hand om svenskarna under besöket och som skrivit artikeln säger, "Jag var glad över mitt medlemskap i VASA det har fått mig att inse värdet av kulturellt medvetande..."

Nordic Folk Lodge #761 har imponerat genom dess brinnande intresse för ett samarbete mellan amerikanska och svenska ungdomar bl a genom deras "site" på nätet www.nordikidfolk.com som ni kan läsa om i denna upplaga.

Som avslutning vill jag påminna er om hur viktigt det är att stanna upp ett tag och tänk på allt det fina som finns runt om er mitt i all stress.

Marie

Notera: Bilder som skickas elektroniskt måste scannas i JPEG format med en skärpa av minst 300 DPI för att kunna uppnå bästa möjliga reproduktion i *The Vasa Star*. Bilder som skickas med posten måste vara av god kvalitet och inga tidningsurklipp. Tack!

AN IMPORTANT REMINDER: Obituaries received after July 1st, 2008, the cost structure will be changed. The cost for up to one column inch will be \$8.00; longer obituaries will be charged at the flat rate of \$25.00.

Cover:

Fallsunset in Lillsjöhögen, Jämtland, Sweden.

Höstsolnedgång i Lillsjöhögen, Jämtland.

Picture by: Kristoffer Carlson, Mentor, Ohio

ARCHIVES NEWS



Nusnäs in Dalarna

Greetings from a warm and sunny Bishop Hill! Summer is the high season for visitors at the Archives, and we have seen people from Canada, Sweden, and all parts of the United States this year. One of the highlights was greeting a group of 35 Swedish travelers who were touring in immigrants' footsteps sites that had been featured in Vilhelm Moberg's Emigrant Novel series. An added bonus was learning that several of the Swedes, from Uppsala among other places, were members in the *Vasa Order of America* and the *Bishop Hill Sällskapet* (Society). It was great fun having them here.

The Archives has seen improvements and additions in several areas this summer. First, we completed upgrades to our smoke and security system. While smoke and motion sensors were in place before, the *Archives Board* and I determined that upgrades were necessary to give thorough protection to our valuable holdings, so that the building is all the better protected from fire hazards and theft.

We have also decided to increase the shelving available for archival storage. The room originally dedicated to records storage is well past full capacity. In order to organize material we already have and allow for growth in the coming years, we plan to rearrange furniture in the adjacent office space to make room for shelving units on the east end of the room. Increasing our storage shelving will greatly enhance our ability to process and provide access to historical records.

In early August, the Archives are receiving a very interesting donation from Willard Larson, Bishop Hill Lodge #683. He is donating a framed sheet of *Bishop Hill Colony currency*, which was issued by the *Western Exchange Fire & Marine Insurance Company* of Omaha, Nebraska November 2, 1857. It is not known whether the currency was ever actually used, but it is a fine example of paper currency available prior to the Civil War when the U.S. government first issued "greenbacks." The colony money, espe-

cially the sheet we are receiving because of its low series number and proper signatures, is quite valued among collectors. This rare historical artifact will make a very nice display item for visitors to view and learn about at the *Archives*.

Lastly, I wanted to let people know about the terrific photo exhibit we have featured in the upper level exhibition room this year. It is a display of some 60 photographs taken by Jake Gruel, Linde Lodge #492, during his sojourns in Sweden. The exhibition is titled "A Trip through the Swedish Countryside" and delights the senses with colorful nature settings, traditional architecture, and quaint village life. The photographs were mainly taken in Dalarna but also in Falkenberg on the west coast and on Lovön, where the Swedish royal palace, *Drottningholm*, is located. It is a delightful exhibition for visitors to glimpse what parts of Sweden are like. For those who want to take a little bit of Sweden home with them, the photographs are available for purchase as a fundraiser for the Archives.

Sammanfattning på svenska

Hälsningar från ett varmt och soligt Bishop Hill! Sommaren är högsäsong när det gäller besök för *Bishop Hill* och *Arkivet*, och i år har vi välkomnat mycket folk ifrån olika delstater samt Kanada, och Sverige. Trettiofem svenskar kom på bussturné efter resan i utvandrarernas spår i Wisconsin och Minnesota. Några i gruppen var till och med medlemmer i *Vasa Orden* och i *Bishop Hill Sällskapet*. Vi var mycket glada att de bestämde sig att vistas några timmar i byn.

Arkivet har sett några förbättringar och tillägg i sommar. Först har vi stärkt vår brandskydd- och säkerhetssystem för att försäkra huset och dess innehåll. Vi har ökat antalet hyllor för lagring av viktiga dokument, så att vi har bättre möjlighet att behandla och organisera samlingen.

En värdefull donation kommer till Arkivet i augusti. Willard Larson, Bishop Hill Lodge #683, skänker en historisk *koloni pappersedel* som gavs ut av ett försäkringsbolag i Nebraska i 1857.

En mycket fin foto utställning av Jake Gruel, Linde Lodge #492, pågår nu på Arkivet. Dessa fotografier skildrar en resa genom Sveriges landsbygd, livet i byn och dess natur. Foton finns till salu för att stödja vårt arbete här.

Submitted by: Lars Jenner,
Archivist/Manager

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Swedish Language Lessons

by Lillemor and Richard Horngren

LEARNING SWEDISH – LESSON 14

Hejsan – Hi there

Did you practice the words from our last lesson about things around the outside of your home while having a party in your yard or on your back porch? Learn one new word every day. You will soon have a nice selection of words to put together a sentence. Use them to converse during the “pratstund” sessions we are hoping your lodge is holding before the lodge meetings or during the “kaffe med dopp” afterwards.

If you can't quite do a whole sentence...just call out a word and have others guess what it is. If in Swedish...the English translation or if in English have it translated into Swedish.

In this lesson we will use some the words from lesson No 13 in these short sentences while at the same time incorporating a few new words. We will finish the rest of the words next time.

Remember learning should be fun...so enjoy!!!

NYA ORD

Example: Vit: common form, Vitt: neuter form, Vita: plural form

vi	we
har	have
granne, -n, grannar	neighbor
en, ett	one, a
många	many
jag	I
att se, ser, såg, sett	to see
han	he
vem	who, whom
ska	will, shall
att klippa, klipper, klippte, klippt	to cut
vit, vitt, vita	white
min, mitt, mina	my, mine
röd, rött, röda	red
bakom	behind
hon	she
barn, -et, ---	child
att plocka, plockar, plockade, plockat	to pick
potatismos	mashed potatoes
kanin, -en, -er	rabbit
glad	happy
att få, får, fick, fått	get
gul, gult, gula	yellow
grön, grönt, gröna	green
inte	not
att tycka om, tycker, tyckte, tyckt	to like
svår, svårt, svåra	difficult
att äta, äter, åt, ätit	to eat

SVENSKA/SWEDISH

Vi har ett träd.
Grannen har två träd.
Trädet har ett löv.
Träden har många löv
En gren har en kvist
Jag ser många kvistar
Han har en grön gräsmatta
Vem ska klippa gräset?
Staketet är vitt
Mitt staket har en röd grind
Bakom grinden har
jag min trädgård
Hon ser många blommor
Röda, blåa, vita, gula
Barnen ska plocka grönsakerna

Tomat och gurkan till salladen

Potatisen ska bli potatismos

Kaninen blir glad att få moroten

En röd rädisa, tre röda rädisor

Majsen är gul
Sparris kan vara grön eller vit

Det är inte alla som tycker
om brytböner
Ärtor är svåra att äta

ENGELSK/ENGLISH

We have a tree
The neighbor has two trees
The tree has one leaf
The trees have many leaves
A branch has a twig
I see many twigs
He has a green lawn
Who will cut the grass?
The fence is white
My fence has a red gate
Behind the gate I have
my garden
She sees many flowers
Red, blue, white, yellow
The children will pick the
vegetables
Tomato and the cucumber
for the salad
The potato will be mashed
potatoes
The rabbit will be happy to
get the carrot
One red radish, three red
radishes
The corn is yellow
Asparagus can be green or
white
It is not everyone who likes
green beans
Peas are difficult to eat

We think you will enjoy practicing these sentences. Do not try to do too many in one lesson. It is better to learn a few really well than many just so-so.

Lycka till – Good Luck!

Deadlines for The Vasa Star:

Jan./Feb. is Dec. 1st

March/April is Feb. 1st

May/June is April 1st

July/Aug. is June 1st

Sept./Oct. is Aug. 1st

Nov./Dec. is Oct. 1st



**Deadline for Christmas ads:
October 15th Deadline for Lucia
articles is Dec. 24 – picture and
article, 200 words or less.**

GRAND LODGE NEWS

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT MAY 1, 2007 thru APRIL 30, 2008

	Assessment Per Capita	OA & B	Education Fund	Archives	Applies to Year
DL Connecticut #1	\$4,095.00	\$78.75	\$315.00	\$472.50	(2008)
DL Massachusetts #2	\$10,062.00	\$193.50	\$774.00	\$1,161.00	(2008)
DL Rhode Island #3	\$4,901.00	\$94.25	\$377.00	\$565.50	(2007)
DL Rhode Island #3	\$4,732.00	\$91.00	\$364.00	\$546.00	(2008)
DL New York #4	\$9,594.00	\$184.50	\$738.00	\$1,107.00	(2007)
DL New Jersey #6	\$13,871.00	\$266.75	\$1,067.00	\$1,600.50	(2008)
DL Minnesota #7	\$3,081.00	\$59.25	\$237.00	\$355.50	(2008)
DL Lake Michigan #8	\$17,160.00	\$330.00	\$1,320.00	\$1,980.00	(2008)
DL Pennsylvania #9	\$8,515.00	\$163.75	\$655.00	\$982.50	(2008)
DL Superior #10	\$2,132.00	\$41.00	\$164.00	\$246.00	(2008)
DL Rocky Mountain #11	\$1,339.00	\$25.75	\$103.00	\$154.50	(2008)
DL Golden Gate #12	\$14,209.00	\$273.25	\$1,093.00	\$1,639.50	(2007)
DL Golden Gate #12	\$13,819.00	\$265.75	\$1,063.00	\$1,594.50	(2008)
DL Pacific Northwest #13					
DL Pacific Southwest #15	\$17,628.00	\$339.00	\$1,356.00	\$2,034.00	(2008)
DL Central Canada #16	\$702.00	\$13.50	\$54.00	\$81.00	(2008)
DL Iowa-Nebraska #17	\$1,989.00	\$38.25	\$153.00	\$229.50	(2008)
DL Alberta #18	\$7,982.00	\$153.50	\$614.00	\$921.00	(2008)
DL Norra Sverige #19	\$8,388.00				(2007)
DL Norra Sverige #19	\$15,155.25				(2008)
DL Sodra Sverige #20	\$19,851.25				(2007)
DL Sodra Sverige #20	\$18,806.25				(2008)
DL Arizona #21	\$4,875.00	\$93.75	\$375.00	\$562.50	(2008)
LL Facklan #248	\$624.00	\$12.00	\$48.00	\$72.00	(2007)
LL Facklan #248	\$572.00	\$11.00	\$44.00	\$66.00	(2008)
LL Miami #554					
LL Jubilee #692	\$559.00	\$10.75	\$43.00	\$64.50	(2008)
LL Holiday #699	\$650.00	\$12.50	\$50.00	\$75.00	(2008)
LL Nordic #708					
LL Carl XVI Gustav #716	\$923.00	\$17.75	\$71.00	\$106.50	(2008)
LL Carl Larsson #739					
LL Carl Widen #743	\$871.00	\$16.75	\$67.00	\$100.50	(2008)
LL Forsgard-Olson #757					
LL Travelers #758	\$637.00	\$12.25	\$49.00	\$73.50	(2007)

No 2008 assessments received/deposited before April 30th from DL New York #4, DL Pacific Northwest #13, LL Miami #554, LL Nordic #708, LL Carl Larsson #739, LL Forsgard-Olson #757 or LL Travelers #758

Student Loan Repayments: Christopher Boyd \$750; Christian Ljunggren \$625; Abigail Sten \$250

GENERAL FUND

Sale of: Printed Material and Cuts	\$ 1,398.54	
Jewelry & Emblems	8,693.24	
Flags & Regalia		
Rituals/Constitution, Etc.	314.54	
History Books		
Postage	319.63	
Miscellaneous	560.25	
Per Capita Assessments	207,566.75	
Total General Fund		\$218,852.95
Transfers - OA & B Fund		106,950.00

REIMBURSEMENT FUND

INSURANCE 1,190.00

EDUCATION FUND

Assessments	\$11,195.00	
Stamp Donations	97.00	
Loan Repayments	1,625.00	
Memorials		
Miscellaneous - Scholarship Fund - Schwab	1,180.00	
Total Education Fund		\$ 14,097.00

OLD AGE AND BENEFIT FUND

\$ 2,798.75

ARCHIVES FUND

Assessments	\$16,792.50	
Membership		
Donations: Memorials		
Endowment		
Miscellaneous		
Total Archives Fund		\$16,792.50

VASA STAR FUND

Advertisements	\$5,243.00	
Obituaries	901.00	
Sales/Subscriptions	185.00	
Foreign Mail Fund	24.00	
Miscellaneous	339.46	
Labels		
Total Vasa Star Fund		\$ 6,692.46

GRAND TOTAL RECEIPTS

\$367,373.66

Deposited - Wells Fargo Bank, Minneapolis, MN
deposit numbers #1 through #19

Joan L. Graham
Grand Secretary

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT

For the Fiscal Year ended April 30, 2008

EDUCATIONAL FUNDS

	General Fund	National Archives Fund	Reimbursement Fund	"Vasa Star" Fund	Regular Fund	Larson Scholarship Fund	Nilsson Scholarship Fund	Birtwistle Scholarship Fund	Old Age Trust Fund	Old Age Allocations Fund	Total
Fund balances May 1, 2007	\$8,452.37	1,101,930.46	127,049.82	1,270.24	324,612.13	177,396.06	30,688.14	31,420.90	4,162,541.86	158,649.86	6,124,011.84
Receipts:											
Dues & assessments	\$207,556.75	16,792.50	1,190.00	---	11,195.00	---	---	---	2,798.75	---	239,533.00
Sales of merchandise	10,406.32	---	---	185.00	97.00	---	---	---	---	---	10,688.32
Investment income	344.84	34,685.45	5,183.43	51.82	13,243.64	7,237.47	1,252.03	1,281.92	178,522.99	---	241,803.59
Net gain on sales of securities (incl. capital gains distributions)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	80,749.20	---	80,749.20
Net gain on transfers of securities	38,303.71	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	38,303.71
Trustee adjustment of cost basis of stock	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	7,634.54	---	7,634.54
Advertising & resolutions	---	---	---	6,144.00	---	---	---	---	---	---	6,144.00
Student loan repayments	---	---	---	---	1,625.00	---	---	---	---	---	1,625.00
Scholarship donations and refunds	---	---	---	---	1,180.00	---	---	---	---	---	1,180.00
Inter-fund transfers	-82,082.00	---	300.00	81,782.00	---	---	---	---	-120,000.00	120,000.00	---
Allocation of per capita dues to Archives	-26,588.00	26,588.00	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Other receipts	879.88	---	---	363.46	---	---	---	---	221.70	---	1,465.04
Total receipts	\$148,821.50	78,065.95	6,673.43	88,526.28	27,340.64	7,237.47	1,252.03	1,281.92	149,927.18	120,000.00	629,126.40
Total assets available	\$157,273.87	1,179,196.41	133,723.25	89,796.52	351,952.77	184,633.53	31,940.17	32,702.82	4,312,469.04	278,649.86	6,753,138.24
Disbursements:											
Executive Board Meeting	12,727.53	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	12,727.53
Merchandise purchases	4,735.05	---	---	---	8,280.54	---	---	---	---	---	13,015.59
Services:											
Grand Secretary	5,400.00	---	---	---	720.00	---	---	---	---	1,080.00	7,200.00
Grand Treasurer	1,740.00	---	---	---	660.00	---	---	---	---	1,200.00	3,600.00
Editor	---	---	---	4,237.20	---	---	---	---	---	---	4,237.20
Circulation Manager	---	---	---	2,400.00	---	---	---	---	---	---	2,400.00
Vice Grand Secretary	1,800.00	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,800.00
Expenses for:											
Grand Master	7,205.33	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	7,205.33
Grand Treasurer's Office	2,659.49	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2,659.49
Grand Secretary's Office	6,230.04	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	6,230.04
Vice Grand Secretary	2,817.49	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2,817.49
Vice Grand Master	720.21	---	---	---	130.65	---	---	---	---	---	850.86
Other Exec. Board Members	2,121.16	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2,121.16
Circulation Manager	---	---	---	1,228.05	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,228.05
Editor	---	---	---	726.93	---	---	---	---	---	---	726.93
Grand Lodge Youth Director	---	---	---	---	400.00	---	---	---	---	---	400.00
Grand Lodge Historian	11.38	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	11.38
Grants to Youth Club Leaders	---	---	---	---	4,800.00	---	---	---	---	---	4,800.00
Accounting & tax preparation	1,750.00	---	120.00	480.00	800.00	175.00	100.00	100.00	---	1,000.00	4,525.00
Trustee's fees	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	16,306.96	---	16,306.96
Old Age Benefit Payments	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	109,170.00	109,170.00
Scholarships Awarded	---	---	---	---	26,847.56	9,000.00	---	1,500.00	---	---	37,347.56
Membership promotion	3,637.84	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3,637.84
Printing, mailing, office supplies	13,209.81	---	---	79,122.26	---	---	---	---	---	---	92,332.07
Bank charges	648.58	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	648.58
Donations, dues, subscriptions	4,731.00	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4,731.00
Student loan granted	---	---	---	---	1,500.00	---	---	---	---	---	1,500.00
Grant to enter Elderhostel comp.	---	---	---	---	840.00	---	---	---	---	---	840.00
Computer related expenses	438.00	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	438.00
Advertising	50.00	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	50.00
Time share assessments	530.72	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	530.72
Refunds	463.75	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	463.75
Invoices from Sweden deducted from 2006-2007 dues by D.L. #20	4,850.00	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4,850.00
Total disbursements	\$78,477.38	---	120.00	88,194.44	47,978.75	9,175.00	100.00	1,600.00	16,306.96	112,450.00	354,402.53
Transfers of assets to National Archives:											
Cash from Wells Fargo NOW checking account	---	-82,503.80	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-82,503.80
Investments in stocks, market values at time of transfer	---	-389,739.52	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-389,739.52
Investments in notes, at market value	---	-29,756.40	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-29,756.40
Investments in Claymore Sec. defined units, at market	---	-146,606.84	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-146,606.84
Plant fund assets, at cost:											
Land	---	-4,160.00	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-4,160.00
Buildings (2)	---	-207,607.44	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-207,607.44
Furniture & Equipment	---	-39,820.50	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-39,820.50
Monument	---	-175.00	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-175.00
Total Assets Transferred	---	-900,369.50	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	900,369.50
Fund balances April 30, 2008	\$78,796.49	279,626.91	133,603.25	1,602.08	303,974.02	175,458.53	31,840.17	31,102.82	4,296,162.08	166,199.86	5,498,366.21

C. Richard Overberg
Grand Treasurer

Summary of Notes, Bonds and Certificates of Deposit as of April 30, 2008

Due Date	Description	Purchase Date	Yield %	Maturity Value	National Archives	Reimbursement Fund	EDUCATIONAL FUNDS			Total Cost	Market Value	
							Regular	Larson Scholarship Fund	Nilsson Scholarship Fund			Birtwistle Scholarship Fund
2013	7/15 Federal National Mortgage Assn.	9/06	4.0	30,000.00	27,755.00	---	---	---	---	27,755.00	30,018.00	
2015	12/3 Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.	11/02	5.0	50,000.00	---	50,005.00	---	---	---	50,005.00	50,013.50	
2017	5/26 Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.	1/04	5.0	60,000.00	---	---	59,216.00	---	---	59,216.00	60,109.80	
2018	7/23 Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.	7/03	5.0	77,000.00	---	---	77,000.00	---	---	77,000.00	77,023.10	
2019	5/15 Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.	3/05	5.75	1,500.00	---	---	---	15,228.50	---	15,228.50	15,005.55	
2020	11/16 Fed.l Home Loan Mortgage Assn.	11/05	6.0	55,000.00	---	55,905.82	---	---	---	55,905.82	55,020.90	
2021	7/22 Toyota Motor Credit Corp.	7/05	4.5	30,000.00	---	---	30,000.00	---	---	30,000.00	28,866.90	
2022	1/15 Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.	10/4	6.1	65,000.00	---	---	68,212.34	---	---	65,212.34	65,024.70	
	2/15 Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.	9/04	6.0	10,000.00	---	---	10,427.97	---	---	10,427.97	10,003.60	
	3/7 Fed. National Mortgage Assn.	3/03	6.25	50,000.00	---	---	54,500.00	---	---	54,500.00	50,090.00	
2023	4/7 Fed. National Mortgage Assn.	6/04	6.0	53,000.00	---	---	---	52,981.88	---	52,981.88	53,037.10	
	5/15 Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.	6/03	5.0	60,000.00	---	---	---	---	30,057.96	31,110.82	58,243.20	
	8/15 Household Fin. Corp.	9/04	6.25	10,000.00	---	---	---	10,522.70	---	10,522.70	9,833.50	
2024	1/30 Fed. National Mortgage Assn.	9/05	4.25	50,000.00	39,089.28	9,776.07	---	---	---	48,865.35	50,005.00	
2025	4/4 Fed. National Mortgage Assn.	3/05	6.0	10,000.00	---	---	---	10,229.38	---	10,229.38	10,008.00	
	7/11 Fed. National Mortgage Assn.	8/05	6.0	71,000.00	72,728.08	---	---	---	---	72,728.08	71,383.40	
2029	11/15 Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.	3/05	5.0	50,000.00	---	---	---	51,252.91	---	51,252.91	50,680.50	
TOTALS					\$139,572.36	115,686.89	299,356.31	140,215.37	30,057.96	31,102.82	755,991.71	744,316.75

Grand Summary of Assets as of April 30, 2008

	General Fund	National Archives	Reimbursement Fund	"Vasa Star" Fund	Regular	EDUCATIONAL FUNDS			Old Age Trust Fund	Old Age Allocation Fund	Totals
						Larson Scholarship Fund	Nilsson Scholarship Fund	Birtwistle Scholarship Fund			
Wells Fargo Bank, Minneapolis:											
NOW checking account	\$56,452.50	72,862.05	---	1,102.08	---	---	---	---	---	---	130,416.63
Cash Sweep account	21,043.99	---	17,916.36	---	4,617.71	35,243.16	1,782.21	---	---	---	80,603.43
Bank of America, Tampa, Florida, checking account	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	166,199.86	166,199.86
Petty Cash Funds:											
Grand Secretary	1,000.00	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,000.00
Vice Grand Secretary	300.00	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	300.00
Circulation Manager	---	---	---	500.00	---	---	---	---	---	---	500.00
Other Archives checking and savings accounts	---	67,192.50	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	67,192.50
Due Date Notes and Bonds and at cost, per schedule											
A attached (market value \$744,316.75)	---	139,572.36	115,686.89	---	299,356.31	140,215.37	30,057.96	31,102.82	---	---	755,991.71
Order of Vasa Trust Fund cash and investments, at book value (Market value, \$5,020,684.67)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4,296,162.08	---	4,296,162.08
Totals	\$78,796.49	279,626.91	133,603.25	1,602.08	303,974.02	175,458.53	31,840.17	31,102.82	4,296,162.08	166,199.86	5,498,366.21

C. Richard Overberg
Grand Treasurer

The Grand Lodge

2009 Scholarship and Essay Contest

The Grand Lodge of the Vasa Order of America offers the following to students attending or planning to attend institutions of higher education

ONE \$3,000 GRAND SCHOLARSHIP: for full-time graduate study in the United States, Canada, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, or Norway. *Applicant must have become a Vasa member prior to February 15, 2007 to qualify.*

Up to TEN \$1,000 COLLEGE or VOCATIONAL SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS: awarded to students to continue education at an institution of higher learning.

ONE \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP — THE IRMA and KNUTE CARLSON AWARD: to an upper class college student (junior or senior) or a Graduate Student.

ONE \$2,000 SCHOLARSHIP — THE ELLIS F. HILLNER AWARD: to a student who plans to enter or is already enrolled at an accredited institution for a career in the medical field.

Applicant for the above scholarships must have become a Vasa member prior to February 15, 2008.

ONE \$1,500 SCHOLARSHIP — THE L. EINAR and EDITH L. NILSSON AWARD: to a high school senior or college undergraduate for continued education at an accredited institution of higher learning.

ONE \$1,500 SCHOLARSHIP — THE GLADYS A. and RUSSELL M. BIRTWISTLE AWARD: to a high school senior or college undergraduate for continued education at an accredited institution of higher learning.

To qualify for the Nilsson and Birtwistle awards applicant must have been a Vasa member prior to January 1, 2008 in DL Connecticut #1, DL Massachusetts #2 or DL Rhode Island #3.

ONE \$3,000 SCHOLARSHIP — THE OSCAR and MILDRED LARSON AWARD: for college or graduate work at an accredited four-year college or university in the United States. *Applicant must be Swedish-born or of Swedish ancestry and a resident of the United States, Canada or Sweden. Recipient may apply for each of three years following initial award for a total amount of \$12,000 over a four-year period.*

Applications are available at the Vasa website until January 15, 2009.

To be eligible, the following items must be postmarked no later than February 10, 2009 to be considered.

1. Completed application.
2. Complete transcripts of grades through the first half of the senior year for high school students or fall semester of current academic year for college students.
3. Current passport photo (preferably 2x3 in. B&W).
4. Letters of recommendation from applicant's Local Lodge.
5. Letters of recommendation from two personal references.
6. A letter of reference from your Dean, Principal, Teacher or Counselor.
7. An original, typed essay, not to exceed 1,000 words.

Suggested Essay Subjects

1. The role youth can and should play in Vasa.
2. Your vision of the future of Vasa.
3. My local lodge and the community.
4. What Vasa means to me.
5. My Swedish Heritage (for non-Vasa members applying for Larson Award)

AWARDS ARE PAYABLE TO the institution at which the student is enrolled or accepted for enrollment. Awards will be granted only for full-time equivalent program in the academic year immediately following the award. There is one exception, for the ten \$1,000 College or Vocational School Scholarships, students need to be enrolled in an accredited vocational school or institution of higher learning taking no less than six (6) credits per semester or eight (8) credits per quarter in the academic year immediately following the award. In extraordinary circumstances, on petition to the Grand Lodge Scholarship Committee, payment may be postponed for a period not to exceed two years.

William L Lundquist
Vice Grand Master

Chairman, Grand Lodge Scholarship Committee
1456 Kennebec Rd.
Grand Blanc, Mi 48439
Phone: 810-695-3248
E-mail: wmlund1@aol.com

Vasa Scholarships to Swedish Language Camp

The Grand Lodge Executive Board will award up to ten Sjölundens Scholarships to qualified applicants from the U.S. and Canada.

Eligibility: Applicant must be between 12 and 18 years of age as of April 1, 2009.
Applicant, parent/guardian or grandparent must be member of the Vasa Order of America for at least two years prior to April 2009.

Requirements: Award winner is expected to provide:
A. evidence of health and accident insurance absolving the Vasa Order of America of any liability,
B. a letter of recommendation from a current teacher and the latest records of grades,
C. a brief essay on "WHY I SHOULD BE CHOSEN TO GO TO THE SJÖLUNDEN SWEDISH CAMP,"
D. a letter, bearing the Local Lodge Seal, verifying that applicant, parent/guardian or grandparent will be a member for at least two years prior to April 1, 2009,
E. other comments that will assist in selecting the winners.

Awards: The Vasa Order of America will pay the basic tuition (around \$1,500) for the two-week 2009 Summer Program and will reimburse travel expenses up to \$300 against submitted receipts. All other costs will be the responsibility of the recipient.

Date of Camp: July 27-Aug 8, 2009.

Winners will be notified and names submitted to the Language Village. – Tuition will be paid to the Village. – Winners will then receive application forms from the Language Village that must be completed and returned to them together with the evidence of insurance as requested above. – The program is a unique opportunity for young students interested in learning the Swedish Language and Culture. – Exciting language, cultural and recreational programs are offered by well-trained and highly qualified staff members. – Participants live in cabins with their own counselors who organize all activities and teach the language. – Tuition includes food, lodging, instruction and instructional material. – Villagers may bring spending money that will be converted to Swedish currency for purchases at the Village Store. – Sjölundens is located at the Finnish Language Village site by the Turtle River near Bemidji, Minnesota. – The village is surrounded by beautiful Scandinavian looking woods and is accessible by commercial air travel.

Mail the application below, together with all information requested above, to:

William Lundquist, Vice Grand Master
1456 Kennebec Rd.
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Name of Applicant _____ Applicant's date of birth _____ Phone number with Area Code _____

Address/State/Zip _____

E-mail address _____

Vasa Member's name: Applicant _____ Lodge _____

Parent(s) _____ Lodge _____

Grandparents _____ Lodge _____

Name of LL Secretary _____ Address _____ City _____ State/Prov _____ Zip/PC _____

Note: You are still eligible even if you have registered to attend Sjölundens this summer but please check here _____ to avoid double billing.

POSTMARK DATE IS FEBRUARY 10, 2009. LATE OR INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

Good Luck!

Campaign Results

Membership 2007 – A Campaign for Vasa

Congratulations to **DL Pennsylvania #9**, to **LL Vågen #588**, **LL Skogen #700**, **LL Northern Lights #620** and **LL Drott #168** and to **Betty Johnson** of LL Drott #168. Each has won a First Place Award in the Grand Lodge Membership Contest.

Top two winners of the **District Lodge Award** for the highest percentage gain* are:

Rank	% Gain	DL Name & No.	Prize
1st Place:	2.9%	DL Pennsylvania #9	\$250 and Grand Master's Trophy
2nd Place:	0.1%	DL Norra Sverige #19	\$200

Top five winners of the **Local Lodge Award** for the highest percentage gain* are:

Rank	% Gain	LL Name & No.	Prize	Membership
1st Place in District:	47.1%	LL Vågen #588, DL #6	\$100	26
1st Place in District:	36.4%	LL Skogen #700, DL #12	\$100	29
1st Place in District:	21.6%	LL Northern Lights #620, DL #15	\$100	44
4th Place:	20.8%	LL Norden #684, DL #12	\$ 40	60
5th Place:	19.5%	LL Mellerud #644, DL #19	\$ 30	50

The winner of **Most Members Initiated Award** by a Local Lodge:

LL Drott #168 in DL Pennsylvania #9 by initiating 27 new members. They will receive \$100.

The winners of **Most Members Sponsored Award** (in 2007)

First Place: Betty Johnson of LL Drott #168 in DL Pennsylvania #9 with 9 members. Sister Betty will receive \$100.

Second Place: Marty Bergman of LL Nobel-Monitor #130 in DL Pennsylvania #9 with 7 members. Sister Marty will receive \$50.

This year four District Lodges did not submit their reports in time to be considered for the membership awards. There well could have been others who had greater numbers, but unfortunately, their reports were not submitted by the deadline.

The Vasa Order again experienced a deep decline during 2007. Of the thirteen districts reporting, you can see that although there were two districts in the Largest Percentage Gain category above, no Districts had a net gain of members. (This may seem confusing, but by rule, percentage gain does not take members lost due to death or members transferred to or from other Lodges into account.) Only two Districts maintained their membership and the rest lost more members than they initiated. **We are not initiating as many new members** into the Order as in past years and, more importantly, **we are not keeping our members**. Of the losses experienced in 2007, 28% were lost due to death and 72% dropped their membership.

Looking forward: for the current year "Membership 2008 – A Campaign for Vasa" can be an incentive for Local Lodges and District Lodges to create something new in their Lodges. New Children's Clubs! New Activities Clubs! New Local Lodges! Be sure to include who sponsored your new members on the Membership Application.

The Grand Lodge has available a "Prospective Member Packet" and a "Welcome to New Members Packet" which can be ordered from the Vice Grand Secretary. Order a supply today. You can also download information from our website www.Vasaorder.com

Local Lodge and District Secretaries: Be sure to get those Yearly Reports turned in by the deadline, so that your Lodges will be in the running for Cash Awards at the close of "Membership 2008 – A Campaign for Vasa"! Let's turn this around and start an UPWARD trend!

Awards to new Activities Clubs are subject to verification of active status at the time of the award. This is most easily accomplished by sending in an activities report to the Grand Lodge Activities Director, Judy Rust.

I congratulate all the winners to a job well done!

In Truth and Unity,
Tore Kellgren – Grand Lodge Membership Chair – Membership@vasaorder.org

*The District and Local Lodge **Membership Contest Rules** are as follows: Percentage gain is determined by: total # initiated minus # lost for other reasons, divided by total membership at beginning of the year, multiplied by 100. Transfers and those lost by death are not counted. New Lodges instituted are not included, nor are those due to mergers. Deadline is March 31st - District Secretaries must have their reports to the Grand Secretary to be included.

DISTRICT LODGE NEWS

DL Golden Gate #12

The 93rd Annual *Golden Gate District #12 Meeting* was held in Redding at the Holiday Inn from April 25-27 and was hosted by Skogen Lodge. Skogen delegates were Joan Lofgren-Sherry and Anni Bonfils. They encouraged members to attend and see how the District functions and to enjoy the Vasa fellowship during social and work events.

On Saturday, the election of the 2008 District officers was held and member, Kathryn Matthews, was elected District Master. She is the first DM to be elected from our lodge since 1986. Kathy's husband, Scott Matthews, was elected District Auditor. A reception was held that evening honoring outgoing District Master, Ed Netzel of Monitor Lodge #218.

On Sunday, at the close of the business meetings there followed an official welcome for the new District Master and District officers. Our Kathy was escorted to the stage and she gave her acceptance speech with some tears and many thank you. Her theme for next year is "Vasa – Bridge Across the Centuries." She presented her plans for the lodges and is looking forward to the coming year.

A snapshot of the rest of Sierra Kronan's activities for 2008: joint Installation of Officers with Monitor Lodge; 22nd anniversary dinner where we voted to accord honorary membership to long-time members Naomi Pearson Kennedy, Ethel Johansson Lindfeldt, and Wanda Magnuson Nesevich; cultural presentation by our newsletter editor, Carl Pearson, who shared pictures and stories about his 2007 trip to visit family in Sweden, where he also met with Aina Swensson from our Sister Lodge in Karlstad; *Sweden Day celebration* in late May at the *Sons of Norway* family camping facility near Alta.

Submitted by: Carol Nesevich
Photo by: Baxter Swaffar



Newly Elected officer: District Master, Kathryn Matthews; Vice District Master, Ivan Johnson; Secretary, Gail Nemy, Executive Board, Victoria Thurman, Dale Invardson, Richard Wooster; Asst Secretary, Elisabeth Swenson; Treasurer, Keith Hanlon; Trustee, Todd Anderson; Auditor Scott Matthews; Chaplain, Robert Homer; Master of Ceremonies, Kristi Bjorklund Betts; Asst Master of Ceremonies, Nancy Courtemarche; Inner Guard, Toni Bray; Outer Guard, Maury Segerberg.

LODGE NEWS

Brage-Iduna Lodge #9 East Longmeadow, MA

The spacious tree-shaded back yard of Margaret and Tom Falkowski's home was a most pleasant setting for this year's Midsommar celebration on a warm, sunny June 21. It was much appreciated that their many preparations included picnic tables, beverages, a large Swedish-flag-design cake with a layer of pudding, and Tom grilling his famous barbecue chicken breasts.

A cute cottage standing in the rear corner of the yard among many plants and flowers seemed reminiscent of the modest dwellings seen in rural Sweden.

Youngsters of all ages had lots of fun dressing the birch maypole with greenery and wild-flowers brought in by lodge members and friends. Everyone then joined in dancing to "Karusellen," "Små Grodorna," and other folk tunes.

This festivity was the perfect opportunity for awarding a Brage-Iduna scholarship. Our vice chairman "Russ" Johnson presented it to Christina Nilsson who is in her third year as a Dean's list student at UMass at Amherst.

As the daughter of Åsa and Per Nilsson, Christina was born in Sweden and moved with her family to the U.S. when she was 5. While participating in *Three Crowns Swedish Children's Club*, she helped others with Swedish language practice, served as Lucia in December, 2005, and is now a lodge member.

Christina's volunteer work in her community includes tutoring pupils in a local elementary school. At UMass, she's been active in several intramural sports and the ski club.

Submitted by: John Morgan



North Star Lodge #106 Los Angeles, CA

It was welcome back time at North Star after a July break. It was good to welcome home Erik and Birgit Lindberg from their Sweden trip to visit family and spend happy hours at a lakeside Stuga. Also a big welcome to Eleonora Nygren, who had great adventures in Sweden, including a swim in the Baltic Sea at +16C°!

A very warm summer, and there was good news and not so good news. We lost several members since springtime: Monica Eiserling who had moved to Arizona. We remember Monica when she brought her spinning wheel out to Vasa Park for the Autumn Fest Marknad – she would spin and instruct. She is survived by her talented glassmaker son. Hazel Johnson Hultberg, who grew up in North Star. She had been as a child in the *SWEA Barnklubben*, she learned Swedish folk dance and was a member of *North Star's Drill Team*. She met Dave Hultberg at Angelica Lutheran Church, they married and produced 8 children. She also leaves grandchildren and her sister, Eleanore.

Then it was Knut Pettersson who leaves his wife Jeanine. Knut was often at our meetings. James Moore, who resides in Malibu with his wife Virginia ... all will be missed by us.

Then at this meeting it was necessary to drape the charter again. Our very active member, Walter Johnson, died recently. Walt leaves his wife Lois, daughters Barbara and Gail, grandchildren, and a great-grandchild. Walter had joined as a youth in 1932. After almost a lifetime in Los Angeles, they had moved to northern California.

Walt held many offices in the lodge, especially known for his financial expertise, serving as Treasurer for several years. He not only wore the title "Mr. North Star," but with Lois, as "Mr. and Mrs. Vasa Park" for all their efforts, dedication and constant "labors of love" for Vasa Park.

Donations to the *Vasa Archives* in memory of those mentioned.

The good news! Jennifer Larson represented North Star and was selected SWEA for our southern California Swedish Midsummer and Richelle Daniel, our young member, who represented Nordic Lodge was selected as Midsummer Queen. I will mention

Columbia too – Amber Dobos, whose grandfather was John Bergstrom of Viking Lodge and a great friend of North Star!

Jennifer is the daughter of Valerie and Allen Larson, and granddaughter of Peggy Pages, Midsummer Queen 1945. Richelle's grandparents were Dorothy and Erol Silver (PDM). Her parents are Richard and Marilyn Daniel.

The other Princesses were beautiful too on the very warm traditional Midsummer Day.

Sunday, September 21, the *Vasa Day Autumn Fest* was held at *Vasa Park*.

Submitted by: Elinore Thornton

Fylgia Lodge #119 San Francisco, CA

Fylgia Lodge #119, San Francisco, had two very interesting cultural events this spring. On April 8th, Andrea Longo and Alfred Everle brought their spinning wheel and small loom to our gathering and explained the workings and products produced from the two. Many questions were asked and very detailed information furnished.

On June 10th, Sarah Kicton had a Hardangar Fiddle and discussed the history of the musical instrument as well as provided musical offerings.

We looked forward to our September 9th meeting when our own Secretary, Torborg Lundell, made a presentation on Nobel Literature prize winner, Selma Lagerlof. Then on October 14th we will celebrate our 101st Anniversary. All are welcome to attend.

Our website is: www.scandinavius.com/vasa/fylgia.

Submitted by: Jean Nelson

Thule Lodge #127 Jamestown/Bemus Point, NY

Hello from the Thule Lodge #127 in Jamestown/Bemus Point, NY. Our summer months have provided us with many warm and beautiful days, and our club has had many activities.

The annual *Scandinavian Festival* was held for three days in Jamestown. Music, dancing, food, discussions and demonstrations were the main part of the three day event. Our Thule Lodge #127 served their famous Swedish meatball dinner on the first night of the event. A fine meal was enjoyed by all. Each day held much

music, dancing and "story telling." This wonderful heritage event will long be remembered.

Our lodge continues to hold Friday night dinners, and special dinners are also planned. Meetings continue to be held on Thursday evenings with refreshments being served at the end of each meeting. Lodge Chairman Eugene Johnson, and vice chairman Ralph Veights work together to conduct the meetings. Cultural leader Fanchon Fuller presents a report of an activity relating to the time of the year. We are thankful for our dedicated officers Lucile Marsh who serves as secretary, Donna Sandberg as the financial secretary, and Alberta Nelson as our treasurer. Diane Shaw serves as our chaplain, opening and closing each meeting with a message. Past chairman Robert Fuller is always present to offer his assistance.

At a recent meeting, our newly renovated flag poles were re-dedicated. Our flagpoles at the lodge were renovated by lodge members Tim Miller, Randy Miller and Wayne Nelson. Lodge secretary Marsh said that the new flagpoles are now good for another 100 years. Members of the lodge met outside at the flag poles for the opening ceremony. A welcome was presented by Chairman Johnson, lodge member John Sipos led the group in the pledge of allegiance, and Chaplain Diane Shaw opened the ceremony with a message.

As Thule Lodge continues well into its 101st year, we look forward to visitors, and if our are in our area, we welcome you. "God dag" to all!

Submitted by: John Sipos



At the July Thule Lodge meeting, three lodge members were recognized for their birthdays. Honored were Nels John Nelson, Allie Nelson Withers, and John Sipos. Refreshments including a special birthday cake were provided by lodge members Susan W. Sipos, and Chaplain Diane K. Shaw.

Tegnér Lodge #149

Oakland, CA

The members of Tegnér Lodge #149, Oakland, CA, were deeply saddened at its June meeting with the announcement of the unexpected death of Doris Nordendahl. Doris was a very active member. She often planned our potluck menus and cooked many of the entrees. For many years she was the planner and director of our *Lucia Programs*. She was editor of our wonderful *Tegnér Telegram*. She is survived by husband Bill, Tegnér's Trustee and daughter Laura, Tegnér's Cultural Leader and Past Chairman. Doris will truly be missed and our sympathy goes to her family.

Several Tegnér members went to the Midsummer celebration at Sveadal on June 21. They enjoyed watching the program that included the crowning of the *Midsummer Queen*, *Svea*, and *Columbia*, the dancing around the

maypole, followed by the "smörgåsbord."

In July, Tegnér members enjoyed the three East Bay lodges' joint picnic in *Robert's Park*, hosted by Sveaborg Lodge. After hamburgers, hot dogs, and all the trimmings were consumed, Ellen Morrison (Sveaborg) conducted a "Are You Smarter Than A Fifth Grader?" game. All wrote down answers to ten questions. Three of the approximately 50 people there proved they were smarter than a fifth grader by answering all ten questions correctly.

Then it was time for a game of KUBB. Framåt won the tournament. Tegnér was second, and Sveaborg was third, so Framåt Lodge will be painted on the wooden *Dala Horse* Trophy, made by Maurice Segerberg, as the 2008 winner. Thanks to Sveaborg for a great picnic!

Submitted by: Ann Tennis



Tegnér #149, officers and 99 year old Ruby Nichelini. Standing - l-r: Jan Norberg, Inner/Outer Guard, Diane Eatherly, Assistant Secretary, Laura Nordendahl, Past Chairman/Cultural Leader. Sitting - l-r: Stig Björk, Treasurer, Elsy Mattsson, Secretary, Ruby Nichelini, Marie Anne Hill, Chairman, and Ann Tennis, Vice Chairman.

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The Vasa website at www.vasaorder.com contains a "materials button" which has the listing of audio visual materials available.

If you are unable to use the Vasa website, you can still ask that a listing be sent to you by mail.

Brahe Lodge #245

Rockford, IL

Our Brahe Lodge #245 held our "mid-sommarfest" on June 19, 2008, in our Rockford, IL, at Vasa Park. The weather was superb, warm, sunny, and NO rain! Our members eagerly devoured our delicious "smörgåsbord" provided by our members and committee.

Our new Brahe Lodge clubhouse is under construction in our Rockford Vasa Park! Completion is scheduled for this coming September! Hurrah!

Submitted by: D. G. Eksten



The Clubhouse is under construction.

Svea Lodge #296

Erie, PA

Our lodge is fortunate to have access to such a beautiful park where we can hold our *Annual Maypole* dances and picnic for Midsommer Day. Weather is always gorgeous too.

Waldameer Park also has a brand new roller coaster, "The Ravine Flyer"! Along with all the other rides and thrills, it makes a great family day!

Attending the Jamestown, NY, *Scandinavian Folk Festival* this year had an added attraction – meeting famed Swedish artist *Carl Larsson's* granddaughter Karin.

She had 2 lectures on each of the three days. The Festival had on display 23 large reproductions of his work. Karin spoke about her family and their home in *Sundborn*, Sweden. Her mother, aunts and uncles were painted as children for his subjects.

The other lecture was a slide presentation about GREZ-sur-LOING, a little village south of Paris where Carl and his future wife fell in love. It came their home for the first 3 years of their marriage.

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Svea Lodge #296

Continued from page 15

The presentation included several paintings Larsson completed while working at this Scandinavian artist-colony.

Karin was such a charming lady and it was an honor that she came here for her first visit to the U.S. I'm trying to picture the 230 Larsson relatives who have a crayfish party near Sundborn every summer.

Submitted by: Linda Collin



Karin Larsson and Linda Collin

Solidaritet Lodge #396 Mt. Vernon, WA

During this past winter and spring our lodge has been very busy with the monthly pancake breakfasts, at which we serve between 500 and 550 (sometimes more!) customers. Many of them are "regulars" and attend faithfully every 3rd Saturday morning, often bringing friends or visiting relatives. A crew of 25 to 28 members (including several teenagers) for each of 2 shifts makes sure everyone is well-fed with their fare of three large pancakes (with syrup and strawberries) plus ham, orange juice, coffee, and, if desired, 2nd servings. From June through August the crew takes a break, no doubt to the disappointment of many "regulars."

The pancake breakfasts are the main source of income for our lodge, with rental of the lodge being a secondary source. Profits are used for maintenance of the lodge and for scholarships for members' children.

On June 8 we celebrated "Mid-sommar" outside on our large lawn. About a week prior to the event it was discovered that our 16' "Majstång" had

been stolen from the shed where it had been kept without problems for many years. Our ever-energetic member Nels Enderberg (one of the early starters on pancake days) and others scurried around to find a suitable replacement. Fortunately one was found at a company that builds log cabins - a 22' pole - and we were able to decorate, raise, and dance around, the "Majstång" as usual.

Following our monthly lodge meetings, we often have a program organized by our cultural committee, such as a craft program, music program, or a social-and potluck together with another lodge group, such as with the *Sons of Norway* once a year. In May member Bjorn Svendsen showed a Norwegian resistance film in honor of *Memorial Day*.

Furthermore, we had a member talent show this spring, which turned out to be very interesting. Ron White, our newly chosen vice-president, who is an enthusiastic and near-professional photographer, had an exhibit of wonderful photographs from Sweden, including nature-, cityscapes-, and wildlife photographs. Jean Nelson, our financial secretary, is an accomplished weaver and showed many of her beautiful pieces. Lillian Nelson had an exhibit of her very unique hat collection, spanning almost 50 years of hats, from the small, elegant one she wore at her wedding in 1961 (a beige pillbox with camel-colored feathers and rhinestones scattered all around), to very elaborately decorated ones that she had collected on her various travels, plus more recent, modern hats. As to dancing, our lodge activities include a monthly Sunday afternoon dance from September thru May, sometimes run by our own dancers and sometimes we have a live Scandinavian music band from either Bellingham or Seattle. The dances are attended not only by local Vasa members but also by members from the nearby *Skagit/Whatcom Nordic Dancers group* and even by some members from the *Skandia dance group* in Seattle.

We're looking forward to another season of Vasa fellowship.

Submitted by: Willy Evans



Linde Lodge #492

Milwaukee, WI

Linde Lodge #492's last business meeting before the summer break encouraged everyone to bring their "Häst," "Dalahäst," that is. With a relatively small group (but with a new member!!!) we still had plenty of horses. Somehow we Swedes never tire of the brightly colored "Dalahäst." This group we call Linda's Corral.

Submitted by: Liza Ekstrand



The "jockeys" in the picture are: Back row from left: Jake Gruel, George Rynders, Rolf Ekstrand, Marge Gruel, Les Touve. Front row from left: Brent Erickson, Leona Rynders, Marge Jothen, Sherri Stigler (welcome new member!), Marianne Ekstrand, and Lillian Larson.

Lindbergh Lodge #494 Los Altos, CA

Our April meeting was devoted to a presentation of Russian/Swedish ties. The father of one our members Edward Komissarchik is Russian and displayed his vast knowledge of Russian history. The Swedes were very heavily involved in Poland and Russia starting in the 16th century. Our speaker related the close and sometimes stormy relationships with Russia. We had a delicious salmon dinner almost on the same day as salmon fishing was banned in California waters.

The May meeting was devoted to the History of the formation of the *Swedish American Patriotic League* in 1894. The League is the umbrella organization that has brought the activities of all the Swedish organizations in the Bay Area together...to share interests and achieve common goals. They conduct a *Midsummer festival* each year and this year was the 114th, the oldest celebration

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Lindbergh Lodge #494

Continued from page 16

outside of Sweden. They even had one after the *great San Francisco Quake* in 1906. They are also the proud owners of a charming summer resort *Sveadal* in the *Santa Cruz Mountains*, which narrowly escaped disaster from fires this year. A mini "smörgåsbord" dinner as always was delicious and enjoyed by all.

At the July meeting we marked the founding of Lindbergh Lodge July 23, 1927. It was our 81st anniversary and we celebrated with lots of vigorous dancing, good fellowship and a wonderful dinner. What better way to say Happy Birthday to our splendid organization and we cherish our close connection to all the other Vasa clubs nationwide!

Submitted by: Muriel Nelson Beroza

Vinland of Cape Cod Lodge #703

Cape Cod, MA

The Norse gods must have looked favorably on Midsommardag as we had the loveliest day for our festivities. Dorothy Kean had asked the church for permission to use their grounds and indoor facilities for our celebration, and *St. Peter's Lutheran Church* in East Harwich, kindly allowed us to do so. We are most grateful to them for their kindness. The grounds are beautiful and there is a children's playground area. The indoor facilities are spacious and immaculately maintained. It was there that many members gathered for "kaffeand." What a pleasure to see many old friends who had not seen one another in several years and rejoiced in doing so.

Our new members, the Sohøels, Eiwond, Marilyn and their daughter, Debbie Sohøel-Goldberg and her daughter, Grace, were truly the backbone of the affair. They brought the "midsommarstång" and pedestal, garlands, decorations, flowers and ribbon-bedecked crowns, and supplied coffee and goodies. In addition, Debbie and her young "associate" Grace took many pictures of the event. The Sohøel family is a wonderful addition to Vinland Lodge.

Many wildflowers, garden flowers and ferns were joyfully added to the pole by our members who later sang and danced around the stång.

Our very talented accordionist, Sonia Westerback, added to the richness and

joy of the day. Sonia is well known, not only in our lodge, but in the *Scandinavian Club* in Fairfield, Ct, and in Florida. We are fortunate to have her as a member.

Among the many talented people in Vinland Lodge is our favorite chef, Johan Christiansen. Like the proverbial "Greeks bearing gifts," Johan arrived bearing a great supply of well prepared clams which were enjoyed by many. Keep 'em coming, Johan!

Here's something that may be of interest to some of the lodges. For years we have watched the men haul in a 20 or 25-foot steel pole for the "midsommarstång."

This year the Sohøels brought a partially assembled pole made of PVC piping along with a pedestal made of the same material. It was light, easily manageable and beautiful – same size as the steel pole but infinitely easier to handle (this time the men were dancing too)!

Submitted by: Marion S. Borgman



Everyone gathered in front of the "new and improved" Midsummer pole.

Odin Lodge #726

Eugene, OR



Members and friends of Odin Lodge #726 in Eugene, Oregon carry the garland to the "majstång" on June 22nd in a processional led by Fossegrimen, a local folk group. The Lodge has been joining with two other Scandinavian heritage groups to celebrate "Midsommar" for the past four years.

Submitted by: Kathy Saranpa

Viking Lodge #730

Flint, MI

Viking Lodge had a successful "Midsommar" that included Gun Ohlsson leading dances around a beautifully decorated "majstång" erected behind the home of Ellis and Mary Nordbeck, Owosso, MI.

We were pleased that Bill and Sheila Lundquist could attend despite their hectic schedule as Vasa's VGM and *Lake Michigan District #8's DM*, respectively, Sheila presented highlights of the District #8 convention in Frankenmuth, MI, and letters of congratulations for the successful convention. It was great having *Grand Lodge* board members present.

The annual *Fish Boil* was held September 14 at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, Flint, MI.

Submitted by: Howard E. Weaver



De and Ron Carlson, Viking Lodge #730, and the Oseberg Longboat that Ron made from a kit available from Billings Boats, Vancouver, BC.

Oseberg Ship

The *Oseberg* ship is a Viking ship found in a large burial mound at the *Oseberg Farm* near Tonsberg in Vestfold County, Norway. It was excavated by Swedish archaeologist Gabriel Gustafson and Norwegian archaeologist Haakon Shtelig in 1904-1905.

The ship is a clinker build 'karv' ship built almost entirely of oak. The boat was 72 feet long, 16 feet 5 inches wide and the mast was 33 feet high with a sail of 968 square feet and could reach a speed of 11.5 MPH. The ship has 15 pair of oar holes which means that 30 people could row the ship. The ship was built in 820 AD and had been in use for several years before it was used in the burial. Although seaworthy, the ship is relatively frail and it is thought to have been used only for coastal voyages.

Nordic Red Rocks Lodge #760

Sedona, AZ

Our lodge is saddened by the deaths of two of our members. Judy Anderson and Ray Myrvold. Judy was our former secretary.

At our June meeting we celebrated midsummer with an indoor picnic with lots of good food, ring dancing and singing. We do not meet in July and August.

Sandra Schonholm will inform us about the "Dala Horse" and its history this fall and we will gather at our October meeting and celebrate five years since our lodge was formed. The committee is busy with the plans for a catered luncheon.

Submitted by: Carol Ingstad Bryant

Nordic Folk Lodge #761

Dyer, IN

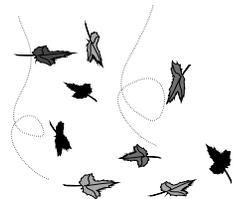
Nordik Folk Lodge #761 is abuzz with motivation and inspiration after attending the *100th Annual Convention of District Lodge Lake Michigan # 8* May 16th, 17th and 18th in Frankenmuth Michigan. Viking Lodge #730 did a stellar job hosting! Representing our lodge as delegates were Chairman Michael Pearson Sr., Treasurer Jenny Stoica, Secretary Linnea Ogrentz, District Inner Guard Steve Westlund, Nordikid Parent Rep. Tim Ogrentz, and District Supervisor of Children's and Youth clubs Lynda Smith

What we heard over and over again at our district convention was a need for "communication" between Vasa Districts, Lodges and Children's Clubs here in America and Abroad: a convenient way to exchange ideas and support. Our Chairman Michael Pearson has been working hard on the *Nordik Folk website* at www.nordikfolk.com which, if utilized the way he envisioned, could provide just such a thing! Please visit the site and send Mike a note with comments, questions or ideas. You can all join in and be part of this exciting website. We also have recruited our wonderful "youth" committee to spear-head and brainstorm on ideas for creating a special place on the web for *Vasa Children's Clubs* (its members, supervisors, directors, and parents) everywhere.

The story of our Lodge is interesting in that it was born out of our Children's Club rather than vice versa. While it probably doesn't matter which way it happens, we believe that the Children's Club has fed our Lodge with parents who now see what a wonderful organization Vasa is and how it can benefit their "Families" for generations to come. Our Lodge and Children's Club go "hand in hand" and we hope that that connection and partnership will help to keep Vasa strong for our children's children in the name of *Strength and Unity!* Information about starting a children's club can be obtained by contacting *Nordik Folk Member and Lake Michigan #8 Supervisor of Children's and Youth clubs Lynda Smith* at lamsmith@hotmail.com. Also, information and procedures for Children's Group Start-up are being developed.

All of our delegates had a wonderful time and were enlightened in many ways about the workings of Vasa, and its lodges and districts. As we each reported back about the District Convention, it was clear that attending the next *District Convention* in Indianapolis and eventually the *Grand Lodge Convention* is essential for as many of our 40 members as can attend!

Submitted by: Linnea Ogrentz,
Secretary



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SWEDISH NEWS

Vinnaren av Chicago Resan, Viveka Skott

Det utlystes en tävling bland lokallogerna om att rekrytera nya medlemmar. Priset för flest antal nya medlemmar var en resa för två pers till USA. Jag lyckades vinna den tävlingen och redovisade resan genom att införa bifogade artikel till vår hemsida.

TORS DAG den 15 november kl 05.30 klev jag på Arlanda-expressen med min stora amerika-koffert! Una Jerlock som klivit på i Linköping väntade på mitt sällskap. Absolut bekvämaste sättet att ta sig till Arlanda på. Vid ankomsten gick min utgångsdörr i baklås!! Jag knackade desperat på rutan, tryckte på alla synliga knappar utan resultat. Una som var på perrongen vevade med armarna och skrek med något vildsint i blicken. Avgångsutrop hördes, skulle denna efterlängttade resa sluta i Uppsala?! En vänlig ung man förbarmade sig, efter vad som verkade vara en evighet till slut över min stora väska och mig. Han sprang upp på andra våningen och över till andra utgången och jag efter förståelse med den lossnade bagagekärren. Blodtrycket på max, det kan jag garantera.

Efter ca nio timmars flygresa landade vi på O'Hare utanför *Chicago*. Där möttes vi av Unas dotter Pernilla. Det var också i hennes familj vi skulle få bo. De bor i ett mycket fint, typiskt amerikanskt hus, mycket smakfullt inrett, i ett område som heter *Hoffman Estates*. Jag fick naturligtvis ett eget rum med bad, det sk "*San Francisco*"-rummet. Jag överlämnade jag en sk Östgötaskål till familjen. Barnen fick CD med Pettson o Findus och några pussel.

FREDAG. Idag skall vi åka till *Bishop Hill*. Vi behövde inte hyra bil, som vi tänkt, utan vi fick låna den ena av familjens två bilar. Det var en JEEP automat med GPS! Vi startade vid 11-tiden och var framme i *Bishop Hill* kl 16.00. Då hade vi tankat, ätit lunch och gjort en rundtur i *Galva*, som är en liten stad ca 7 km från *Bishop Hill*. Vi hittade hotellet, hoppade in och frågade om det fanns ett dubbelrum för en natt. Damen såg mycket förvånad ut och menade att hon inte hade några rum att hyra ut! Efter en stund gick det ju upp för oss att hotellet var ett museum! Damen visade oss ett gult hus

några kvarter bort. Vi ursäktade oss och körde dit. *Colony Hospital*, stod det på skylten. Vi klev! På dörrarna kunde vi läsa "Dr Blombergs mottagning". Vi slog oss och efter ca en kvart hördes det röster utanför dörren. Vårdinnan som bodde på tredje våningen hälsade oss välkomna. §100 kostade rummen inkl frukost.

Vi tog ett glas vin, inköpt i *Galva*, som egentligen är en felstavning för Gävle. Vi klädde om till logebesöket, jag i min folkdräkt som alltid blir uppskattad i USA. "Logemötet" var i *Colony School*. På besök var också FDSM Lennart Petterson med fru Joan. Jag överlämnade en bordsflagga och ett telegram från vår loge under mötet. Därefter följde underhållning av tre syskon som, ackompanjerades av sin farfar på piano och sjöng amerikanska visor. Därefter serverades "kaffe" med söta mjuka kakor. Efteråt blev vi inviterade till "Arkivet" på ett glas vin, av Lennart och Joan. Det var bara några kvarter att gå. Där satt vi och pratade några timmar innan vi gick hem till "Hospitalet."

LÖRDAG. Vi åt en härlig frukost med nybakta kanel-scones, pumpkin-muffins och "rasks," därtill thé och frukt. Nu skulle vi utforska *Bishop Hill*. Första besöket blev åter till det gamla hotellet. Därefter besökte vi "the post-office." Vi skulle posta vykortet vi fått på "Hospitalet." Vi tog därefter en promenad till *Bishop Hill Heritage Museum*. Där visas de saker som de svenska invandrarna tagit med sig på den långa resan från Sverige till sitt nya liv i Amerika. Bland nyttiga verktyg och varma kläder fanns det flera små och mycket personliga saker. Det var rörande att se. "Vasa-arkivet" stod nu på tur, det egentliga målet för resan. Vi fick dess historia berättad för oss av Lars Jenner som är ansvarig för *Arkivet*. Vi träffade Lennart Petterson och Joan igen över en fika med pepparkakor.

Det tredje muséet var *State Historic Museum*. Där finns alla målningar av konstnären *John Krans*. Mycket fascinerande samling av naivistisk konst. *John Krans* har på ett mycket enkelt och bildligt sätt dokumenterat livet i *Bishop Hill*, på mitten av 1800-talet. Dessutom

finns ett stort porträttgalleri över de då levande personerna i samhället. Innan vi för hem besökte vi den mycket märkliga *Colony Church*. Huset ser ut som en vitmålad lada. Det beror på att nedre våning bestod av 10 bostadsrum, ett för varje familj. Våningen ovanpå var själva kyrkan, med ingång utifrån på gaveln.

Det blev många intryck att smälta innan vi vände kosan de 25 milen hemåt igen.

SÖNDAG. Vi startade kl 12.00 och vände färdriktningen SO om *Chicago*. Vi skulle köra ca sju mil genom stan till en plats som heter *Evergreen Park*. Vi skulle besöka *Logen Siljan-Mora-Tuna Nr 134*. Efter ca en tim och fyra tullar senare var vi framme. Inte ett träd i sikte, trots namnet. Mötet hölls i ett kyrkligt dagis!. Vi blev mycket väl mottagna och hade en verkligt trevlig eftermiddag. Flera var svenskar som kommit till USA i vuxen ålder och ville gärna prata svenska. Vi fick mycket gensvar och det märktes att de var seriösa och intresserade medlemmar av *Vasa Orden*. Flera hade också uppdrag i sitt distrikt. Jag passade på att invitera dem att bli en av våra Vän-Loger. Det verkade som om de blev glada över att jag frågade. Vi har redan nu haft kontakt flera gånger. Vi hoppas naturligtvis att intresset skall hålla i sig även i framtiden. Paret Sten och Nancy Hult hade eventuella planer att besöka Sverige under år 2008. Det ser vi fram emot och skall i så fall ordna en träff av något slag. Efter mötet serverades det fem olika soppor med tillbehör. Det var med upprymt sinne vi körde hem i höstmörkret.

Efter bara tre dagar hade jag uppnått syftet med min vinstresa till USA. Resten av tiden var jag bara turist tillsammans med Una och den trevliga och generösa familjen som vi bodde hos.

Besöket i *Bishop Hill* var så intressant att jag beslutat mig för att skriva ett kåseri om *Eric Janson*, mannen som grundade samhället *Bishop Hill*. Den historien är så fascinerande att den kräver eget utrymme. Jag ber att få återkomma med den historien.

Submitted by: Viveka Skott, FDO

YOUTH NEWS

Viking Village Youth Camp at Vasa Park

On Sunday, June 22, 2008, Midsummer was celebrated at *Vasa Park*, located in the beautiful hills above *Agoura Canyon*, California. Music, dancing, singing, sharing good food, swimming, and the raising of the *Maypole*, the presentation of the *Midsummer Court* and dancers were enjoyed by all. This was also the gathering day for the youngster from *District Lodge Pacific Southwest #15* for the much awaited beginning of the week long "Viking Village Camp." This event is an annual event sponsored by the *Vasa Park Association* of Southern California.

Following the *Midsummer celebration*, families and campers met to get acquainted and for a Swedish meatball dinner. Following dinner, the children said farewell to their parents and settled in their tents for the week long camp. The Swedish portion of the camp was under the direction of Ann Heinstedt of *Nordic Heritage Lodge*, with assistance from Gary and Gunlog Spaberg, Rolf and Terri Jahn, Dorothy "Linnea" Burns, Laurie Taylor, Helene Kayem, Petra Anderson, Kristoffer and Hanna Dios, Maria Soderholm, Mattias Gunnarsson and Jonas Fornander. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the parents that helped make this such a wonderful event.

During the day, the children participated in *Camp Keystone's* day programs which include zip line rides, go-carts, paddle boats, rock climbing, horseback riding, waterslide/swimming, archery, fishing, working the new obstacle course and carnival type rides. In the late afternoon and evening, the children were

exposed to the Swedish language, folk dancing, singing, crafts and other traditional activities.

Breakfast and dinner was prepared and served under the direction of Gary and Gunlog Spaberg and lunch was provided by *Camp Keystone*

A special evening of Swedish folk dancing and singing was followed by delicious Swedish Pancakes and waffles with all the trimmings by the pool that was truly enjoyed by the children and parent chaperons. The ever popular waterslide and swimming pool was opened each evening for our children.

During the last evening, the children were excited to have the choice of either riding horses in the hills above *Vasa Park* or the thrill of racing go-carts or doing both. The week concluded with a pizza party for the children and their families. There were lots of hugs and goodbyes, phone numbers and email addresses exchanged and all the children look forward to the opportunity to participate again next year.

The opportunity provided by the *Vasa Park Association* members has allowed the children to spend a week at *Vasa Park*, enjoy all the wonderful activities provided by *Camp Keystone*, learn Swedish traditions and continue to foster the relationships vital for the survival of the *Vasa Order of America* in Southern California. *The Viking Village Camp* will return again next year and everyone looks forward to renewing friendships and starting new ones.

Submitted by: Ann Heinstedt and
Thomas Jahn
Pictures by: Rolf Jahn

Nordikids Musiklubb #208

Nordikids ushered in the long-awaited season at their *Annual Spring Fest* on Sunday, May 4th at the *House of Lynwood* in Lynwood, Illinois. The group, made up of 25 children (ages 4-18) from Indiana and Illinois, joined together to sing and dance in their program, "The Adventures of Pippi Longstocking." The event began with a social hour, bake sale, raffle and then dinner and the children's performance.

Starring as *Pippi* was our crowned *Spring Queen*, Cassandra Fuller who will be moving this month from Lansing, Illinois to Phoenix, Arizona where she hopes to find or start another *Vasa Children's group*! Cassandra is 11 years old and just finished 5th grade at *St. Paul Lutheran School* in Munster, Indiana. Cassandra is the daughter of Jodi and Peter Nicola of Lansing, Illinois. Mrs. Nicola is a member and past Cultural Leader of Nordik Folk Lodge #761.

When not singing Swedish with *Nordikids Musiklubb*, Cassandra enjoys taking care of her cats and entertaining her cousins. She also enjoys climbing trees and being outside. She made the perfect *Pippi*! Her Great Grandmother was Norwegian and grew up in Bergen, Norway. She also has an Aunt who was born and raised on Öland, Sweden. Cassandra hopes to one day be a veterinarian and make a difference for homeless and injured animals.

Nordikids Musiklubb meets weekly during the school year at their new location at *Ridge United Methodist Church* at 8607 Columbia Ave., in Munster, Indiana. They are supervised by Lynda Smith and directed by Lynnea Synwelski. Language is taught by Annelise Gingold-Nelson.

Summer brings the *Vasa Park Midsummer Picnic* in Elgin, Illinois, a performance at *Chellberg Farm's* Midsummer celebration in Chesterton, Indiana, and a "Kubb" Tournament which is still in the planning stages. Also, our Senior Nordikid members have been getting together and working on a "web-based" *Vasa Children's club* meeting place. They envision a web site that will



Viking Village campers at Vasa Park in Agoura Hills, California.

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Nordikids Musiklubb #8

Continued from page 20

allow youth club members from all over the world communicate and share ideas.

Submitted by: **Linnea Ogrentz, Nordikid Mom**



Cassandre Fuller as "Pippi"

Vasa "Rosebuds" Youth Group

The Vasa "Rosebuds" Youth Group is a very active Children's Club in the Vasa Order of America. Three years ago their leader retired after many years of involvement, but the Group has not missed a beat since that time. Three of the teenage girls that had been a part of the Group for years took over teaching the dances and some parents took over the management, including scheduling of performances, caring for the costumes, and finding practice space.

For the first two years Annika Tohlen was the main leader with help from Judy Holtz and Caitlin Goldie. Annika went away to *St. Olaf* last fall and Caitlin Goldie has been their leader this year. Not only did the Group maintain itself, but it has grown to where they now number over 30 children. It has been fun to watch the young girls as leaders, watch how they relate to their dancers, and to see how easily they are able to teach them.

They have been a part of Harmoni Lodge's annual Christmas program for many years and not only do the children look forward to performing there, but the members are in awe watching the many children perform dances and the "Lucia" pageant. The children also love "Tomten" who comes every year. They also participate in *ScanFair* which is a big

Christmas celebration for the entire Nordic community where they dance and perform "Lucia," they attend the "Midsommar" festivals in Astoria and Portland, and they are a part of Portland's *Rose Festival* every year, etc.

It's been fun to watch them grow and, since Caitlin will leave for college this fall, the Group faces another crossroad.

We, who have watched them through the years, know that somehow they must continue with its teaching of culture and heritage to the children of the Swedish community here in Portland.

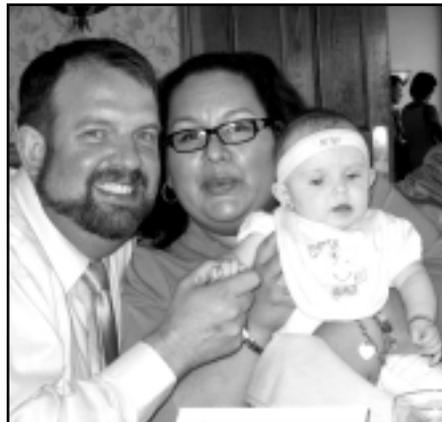
Sponsored by: Nobel Lodge #184 and Harmoni Lodge #472, Portland, Oregon

Submitted by: **Judy Rust**



FAMILY

NEW BABY



Steven Leigard, Chairman of Viking Lodge #256, San Pedro, CA, and his wife, Leslie, announce the birth of their daughter, *future VASA member Annemarie Lynn* on January 7, 2008. She weighed in at 5 lbs 10 oz, and was 19." Baptism was April 19 at St. Philomena Church in Carson, CA. The maternal grandmother, Emilia Sevillanos, lives in Carson. Paternal grandparents, Stig and Ulla Leigard, live in Växjö, Sweden. The proud parents are shown with here with their little girl. Steven is a Past District Master of District Lodge Pacific Southwest #15.

Submitted by: **Joan Johnson, Viking Lodge #256, San Pedro, CA**

WEDDING



Mr. and Mrs. Bradley R. Andersen

New York "Midsommar Bröllop"

Jeanne Eriksson Widman and Bradley R. Andersen, who first dated in 1966 while attending Fort Hamilton High School of Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, tied the knot 42 years later on Midsummer Sunday, June 22, 2008 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Glen Head, Long Island, New York. The Matron of Honor was Jeanne's daughter Nicole. Nicole and the Ring Bearer, Brad's grandson Matthew Andersen, 3-1/2 years old, came down the aisle to "Brudsmarsh från Delsbo," played by Paul Dahlin & friends

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FAMILY

Continued from page 21

from Minnesota. Jeanne walked down the aisle to Pettersson-Berger's "Sommar-sång," played by Wayne Söderlund on accordion. The Best Man was Brad's son, Bradley Andersen Jr., of West Palm Beach, Florida, and the Lord's Prayer was sung by the bride's childhood girlfriend, Ingrid Olsson Feingold.

They were pronounced man and wife by the Rev. Paul Johnsen, a long-time friend from Brooklyn. As part of the homily, Pastor Johnsen told Jeanne that she was now getting a last name with "sen," and in return Brad was getting music!

A reception with over 100 friends and family was held at The George Washington Manor in Roslyn, Long Island. A honeymoon cruise to Key West, Cozumel and Belize followed. The couple has 5 children and 4 grandchildren between them, and they live mostly in Patchogue, Long Island, but enjoy getting away to their winter home in Florida as much as possible. Brad is a NCPD retiree and Jeanne, Swedish-American of the Year 2005, is well known in the Scandinavian music world. They are both members of Vasa Lodge Lindbergh #505 of Long Island. Skål to the newlyweds!

Submitted by: Jeanne Eriksson Widman

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Anna Lisa Erickson
June 14, 2008 - Manhem Pier



Lois Erickson, Carolyn Erickson, Karin Norrman, and Susan Brown leaning on the pier at Manhem listening to the Chaplain's message.

When Anna Lisa Erickson died, after serving 79 active years in Vasa and sitting in all of the officer's seats in District #4 and also holding a post in the Grand Lodge, Peter Norrman suggested that we hold our special Memorial Service during Sweden Day at Manhem Club. All members agreed.

Before the program for Sweden Day 2008 got started, members met on the pier in Manhem which extends into the waters of Long Island south. Each of us was given a rose to hold and at the proper time, throw petals into

the waters as they floated out with the tide.

Jeanne Widman provided appropriate music to this lovely ceremony ending up with "Halsa Dem der Hemma."

Submitted by: Elaine Gyllenhammar

CULTURE



Den Heliga Birgitta

Nu är sommaren slut och dagarna börjar bli kortare, mörkare och kallare. Men nu ser många svenskar fram mot första veckan i oktober och det vi kallar britt-sommar. 'Britt' är kortform av Birgitta, som i vår almanacka har fått en särskild dag, den 7 oktober, som är den *Heliga Birgittas Dag*. I folktron sägs den Heliga Birgitta be till Gud att Han ska ge oss åtminstone ett par varma och soliga dagar till, eftersom den svenska vintern kan bli väldigt lång.

Birgitta föddes i Östergötland 1303. Hon gifte sig med en adelsman och de fick åtta barn. Hon och maken vallfärdade till Jerusalem, och efter makens död bosatte sig Birgitta i Rom.

Birgitta var mycket from och studerade Bibeln hela sitt liv. Hon fick över 600 himmelska uppenbarelser, som

hon lät en sekreterare skriva ner. Hon fick stort inflytande både i religiösa och politiska frågor. I slutet av sitt liv fick hon av påven i Rom tillåtelse att bygga ett nunnekloster i Vadstena i Sverige. Hon gjorde själv upp ritningarna både till klostret och den stora klosterkyrkan, som fortfarande besöks av många människor.

Birgitta dog i Rom 1373. Den 7 oktober, 18 år senare, blev hon kanoniserad, och Sverige fick därmed sitt första helgon; *Den Heliga Birgitta*.

St Birgitta

Summer has come to an end and the days are getting shorter, darker and colder. Many Swedes are now looking forward to the first week of October; "Britt summer." Britt is short for the name of Birgitta who in our calendar has gotten a special day on October 7; *The Day of St Birgitta*. According to the folklore, St Birgitta is said to have prayed to God asking him to give us at least a few more mild and sunny days, since a Swedish winter can be very long.

Birgitta was born in the county of Östergötland, in the southern part of Sweden, in 1303. She married a noble man and they had eight children. She and her husband went on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, and after her husband's death Birgitta settled down in Rome.

Birgitta had been studying the Bible her entire life. She had over 600 revelations which she had her secretary write down. She had great influence on religious and political questions.

At the end of her life, Birgitta was given permission by the Pope in Rome to build a convent in the town of Vadstena, Östergötland. She herself made up the plans for the convent, and the large church still get many visitors.

Birgitta died in Rome in 1373. On October 7, 18 years later, she was canonized and Sweden got its first saint; *St Birgitta*.

Submitted by: Gun Lith, GLCD, Sweden

Picture Submitted by: GM Rolf Bergman, Nobel-Monitor Lodge #130

A Swedish Entrepreneur In Yellowstone Park

c. Leroy Anderson, April 2008

Yellowstone National Park was established in 1872 as the first national park in the world. Because of its exotic thermal activity, spectacular falls and river canyons, beautiful vistas and abundant animal life, it is often referred to as a truly unique natural wonderland. Its establishment set the precedent for creating hundreds of national parks and preserves in the United States and throughout the world.

Yellowstone Park remained nearly inaccessible for the general public during its first decade, but in 1883 the Northern Pacific Railroad completed a rail line to the very northern edge of the park at Gardiner, Montana, and it soon became a tourist Mecca. That same year, Olaf Adolph Andersson, who had emigrated from Ostergotland, Sweden, in 1880, arrived in the park and set up residence at Mammoth, the Park Headquarters. Family tradition asserts that "Ole" helped construct the rail line to Yellowstone which took him to its very edge. He quickly identified with Yellowstone and remained there for 25 years.

Immediately upon reaching the Park, Ole asserted its entrepreneurial possibilities and decided that even though he had virtually no economic resources, he could establish a business creating and selling curiosities to visiting tourists. The beautiful travertine hot water terraces at Mammoth seemed to present the best immediate possibilities.

Ole observed that almost any objects, ranging from pine cones to horse shoes, could acquire a glistening white travertine coating by emersion in the terrace water for only two or three days. Furthermore, tourists appeared to be intrigued with acquiring such specimens as mementos of the Park. The terrace preferred for coating specimens became known as "Coating Terrace," but it is now called "Minerva Terrace." Ole's curio store was a tent from 1883 to 1896. He also lived in a tent, winter and summer, during much of that period.

Ole had been making coated specimens for six years before the *Department of Interior* granted him an official permit in 1889. This permit also granted him the right to sell bottled sand from the *Grand Canyon*; of the Yellowstone. The sand



Wedding photo, Christina Granlund and Ole Andersson.

was made to form colorful landscape pictures. Ole was assisted by Andy Wald in this production.

In November, 1891 Ole married Christina Granlund of Mora, Dalarna,

Sweden. They had three sons, all of whom were born in the Fort Yellowstone Hospital in Mammoth.

After their marriage, the Anderssons spent winters in Helena, MT, and summers in Mammoth. In 1896, they built a permanent cottage at Mammoth which provided comfortable living quarters and curio display space.

In addition to creating curios, Ole was an accomplished jewelry maker, shoemaker, carpenter and photographer (many of Ole's tools, photos and specimens are now in the possession of this author). Ole also served as an official guide and winter hotel-keeper along with his regular business.

The Anderssons sold their curio business in 1908 and moved to Helena where they lived until Ole's death in 1915 at age 58. Christina survived him for 30 years in Helena.

Ole's story is an inspiring example of the vision and perseverance of an impoverished Swedish emigrant who climbed the American ladder of success over 100 years ago. (The practice of coating specimens and taking colored sand from the *Grand Canyon* of the Yellowstone were approved at one time but now are prohibited).

The author is Professor Emeritus of The University of Montana. He is the grand-nephew of Olaf Adolph Andersson and is a member of Tegner Lodge, Missoula, MT.

Submitted by: Rick Swanson, Tegnér Lodge #224



Coated specimens

Welcome To Our New Members

On behalf of the Grand Lodge and members of the Vasa Order of America, I am pleased to welcome you to membership in these local Vasa lodges. If you are new to the Vasa Order of America we bid you welcome. If you are transferring or are a dual member, your new lodge bids you welcome. We hope you will enjoy your membership and will participate in all of the activities planned for you.

Tore Kellgren, Grand Lodge Membership Chairman

5971 W. Walbrook Dr.

San Jose, CA 95129

E-mail: tore@kellgren.org

DL CONNECTICUT NO. 1

Karl The XII #103
Ann Nyberg
Spiran #98
Judy Williams
Karl the XII #103
Andrew Marinelli

DL MASSACHUSETTS NO. 2

Vinland Of Cape Cod #703
Russell Peterson, Jr.

DL NEW JERSEY NO. 6

Arlington #62
Carly Antonucci
Tava Antonucci
Rudolph Makel
Sveaborg #446
Courtney Montgomery
Marion Schumacher
Gothiöd #486
Donald Hubbard
Viking #735
Madeline Keller
Dalahast #742
Kathleen Evans
Allen Nelson
Duncan Peterson
Janet Wadle

DL MINNESOTA NO. 7

Stenback #138
Zachary Thoreen
Kronan #433
Robert Miklya

DL LAKE MICHIGAN NO. 8

Kronan #179
Robert Anderson
Hertha Falt
Audrey Fields
Christina Kenron
Shirley Koch
Austin #466
Stella Taute

Joe Harbor #534
Marybeth Culverhouse
Bishop Hill #683
John Tornquist
Jubileum #755
Cindy Haberstroh
Nordik Folk #761
Amy Alvarado
David Andersson
Susan Flores
Lisa Raddatz
Kristin Schmal

DL PENNSYLVANIA NO. 9

Nobel-Monitor #130
Carol Engstrom
Eric Fryxell
J. Perrine
Nancy Perrine
Balder #308
Lynelle DiSanti

DL GOLDEN GATE NO. 12

Balder #343
John Lundstrom
Sara Lundstrom
Svea #348
Erika Canion
Sveaborg #449
Janet Bocchicchio
Michael Bocchicchio
Lindbergh #494
Eva Hayes

Linnea #504

John Anderson
Mariann Boone
Michael Curley
Patty Curley
Skogen #700
Donald D'Arcy
Trudie D'Arcy
Sue LeVier

DL PACIFIC NORTHWEST NO. 13

Harmoni #472
Mike Sloan
Olympia #550
Dawn Kingsbury
Kristine May

DL PACIFIC SOUTHWEST NO. 15

Skogsblomman #378
Melissa Stout
Oak Leaf #685
Siri Eliason
Valley Vikings #701
Carl Lorenc

DL IOWA-NEBRASKA NO. 17

Norrskenet #331
Thoresa Max

ARIZONA NO. 21

Phoenix #677
Christine Ahlstrand
Curt Johnson

Liz Johnson
Donald Jorgensen
Sylvia Jorgensen
Clara Strode
Wendy Winkelmon

SÖDRA SVERIGE NR 20

Logen Kärnan Nr 608
Marlene Radenlind
Eva Karlsson
Bengt-Åke Karlsson
Mattias Johansson
Logen Småland Nr 618
Ingrid Wårdhag
Gustav Wårdhag
Logen Westervik Nr 679
Kerstin Svensson
Lars Svensson
Bengt-Arne Nordström
Ingallil Hansen
Anette Hultberg
Christer Hultberg
Margareta Solevi Karlsson
Per-Olof Karlsson
Birgit Bergström
Alf Bergström
Kent Ekelund
Marie Ekelund
Tomas Svensson
Logen Utvandrarerna Nr 680
Birgitta Ödman

CORRECTION NOTICE

Correction for the May/June 2008 issue:

Page 11: Composer Alfon Bergstrom is a member of Viking Lodge #256 (not Valley Viking #701 as previously announced) and a dual member of Glenn T. Seaborg Lodge #719.

Page 13: Caption of Fylgia's officers, Yasuko Wooster is Chaplain, **not** Chairman.

Page 26: 6th of June, National Day is **not** a working day.

HAPPENINGS

Swedish Education Delegation Visits LA and is Surprised by Enthusiastic VASA Members!

As a teacher with the Los Angeles County Office of Education, I was privileged to meet with a few representatives from the government of Malmö, Sweden this spring.

The purpose of their visit was relatively simple: learn some things about how the L.A.- area public schools deal with large populations of immigrants in terms of services and culture.

The visitors – all local government officials – were quite pleasant and I enjoyed getting to know them and learning interesting things about Malmö, a southern port city, as well as their interest in our schools and culture.

I got to tell them about how we in California work with our immigrants to help them assimilate and achieve in our school system.

One thing that I thought was interesting was that although the three men were government representatives, they worked only part-time in their official capacities and still had other careers to keep. For example, Jurgen was still working hard as a high school teacher. I thought this is a great way to do your civic duty, while still keeping in touch with the people you serve.

The panel told us of the great many changes that have happened in Malmö in recent years. There have been some 30,000 immigrants into their area from the Middle East. They estimated that half of the people living in Malmö are immigrants! Jurgen said teaching can be very difficult simply because in his school they had 161 different languages! We told him how parts of L.A. are similar.

A major concern of the panel was that because of the new generation of Swedes and the many new immigrants, they felt like they were losing their traditions and customs. My mother, Virginia, a part-time private tutor, told the panel about VASA and its long tradition in the U.S.

She explained to them how our own kin – the Severson family, who by the way originally came over as “Severinson” but the name was changed at Ellis Island -- had been involved in VASA for several generations. And she proudly recalled how I, as her daughter, had learned about Swedish and other Scandinavian traditions.



Los Angeles County of Education staff and representatives from the government of Malmö, Sweden.

The panel was very interested in VASA, and they thought that we probably knew more about their traditions than they did. Imagine that!

Anyway, we gave them some information about VASA, including the website, and hoped that they may soon be getting in touch with a local chapter that could help teach them about their culture to their citizens.

That sunny afternoon they shared about their schools and government and we shared how we were facing some difficult hurdles with our students such as funding shortages and difficulties with the federal No Child Left Behind legislation.

Harborlites Chorus of Anaheim

This November, Southern California will host a unique concert uniting over 120 local singers, the Harborlites Chorus of Anaheim, with 140 singers from Rönninge, Sweden to share an evening of a cappella vocal music.

The show, “How Swede It Is!” will be held at the *Carpenter Performing Arts Center* in Long Beach on Nov. 1.

The host chorus for this multi-national event is the *Harborlites Chorus*, awarded the 2008 *International Chorus Championship of Sweet Adelines* after winning the singing “Olympics” competition last year in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Under the direction of Pam Pieson, the *Harborlites Chorus* is known internationally for its musical excellence and visual artistry.

All in all, I think both “countries” learned a lot during our time together. I was grateful for my membership in VASA. I realized that cultural awareness is such a precious thing – and that because I know about our past and I am ready and able to share it in the future!

**Submitted by: Laura Severson de la Torre, Teacher, Norwalk-La Mirada Cal-SAFE
Los Angeles County Office of Education
VASA Member,
Nordic Lodge #660, Whittier CA**

It was this reputation for musical excellence that gave *Rönninge Show Chorus* Co-Director Britt-Helene Bonnedahl the idea for a joint show with the *Harborlites Chorus*. Bonnedahl explained, “The Rönninge Chorus knew a year ago that that Harborlites Chorus would be the 2008 World Champion. We knew before the competition was held. It was a dream to have a show with Harborlites.”

It was not enough to just dream about singing together. Bonnedahl contacted leaders in the Anaheim chorus and shared her vision of a joint show between the two barbershop music choruses. With some creative planning, there was an opportunity to make Bonnedahl’s dream a reality. Trying to follow in the footsteps of the

Continued on page 26

Harborlites

Continued from page 25

Harborlites Chorus, the Rönninge singers will be traveling to the United States to try and win their own international championship.

Rönninge Show Chorus was crowned Gold Medalist at the *Nordic Barbershop Championships* in May 2007. The win in the European contest means that the Swedish Chorus will be traveling to Hawaii to compete in the 2009 *Sweet Adelines International Competition*. A plan was formulated: on their way to the Pacific Island, the members of the *Rönninge Show Chorus* would stop in Los Angeles and the two choruses would hold a joint show. The idea for "How Swede It Is!" was born.

"It's going to be a unique experience for both of our choruses," said *Harborlites* Director Pam Pieson. "We speak different languages, live in different countries, but we all love the challenge of singing barbershop and the sisterhood that comes from making harmony together."

The concert will be more than just a joint performance of the two choruses from opposite sides of the globe. Members of the *Rönninge Show Chorus* will be hosted by the *Harborlites*, giving the women in both choruses an opportunity to get to know each other better and share their cultures as well as their music.

When it is time for both choruses to take the stage, it promises to be an evening to remember. *Harborlites* will perform its music that won them the *International Championship*, including American classics such as "Sweet Georgia Brown," standards such as "Danny Boy" and poignant show tunes ranging from "Tonight" to "Bring Him Home" to a dynamic "Phantom of the Opera" medley.

The Rönninge Show Chorus will showcase their music that they are bringing to *International Competition* including a Swedish package and a take on the stereotypical view of Swedish women, "Big, Blonde, and Beautiful."

Adding even more international flair to the evening, "How Swede It Is!" will also feature the 2007 *Sweet Adelines International Quartet Champions SALT* in their first-ever Southern California performance. Hailing from Huddinge, Sweden, *SALT* is made up of accomplished singers Anna Öhman, Annika Andersson, Susanna Berndts, and Anna-Stina Gerdin.

"We are really looking forward to doing a show together with the *Harborlites*

Chorus," said Öhman. "That much talent on the same stage? It's going to be a show to remember!"

Two of the quartet contestants in the 2009 *International Competition* from Southern California will also be featured: *SparX*, the returning 12th place International finalists; and Regional Champion *Spirit*, heading to International as the representatives of Southern and Central California.

As a grand finale, the stage will be filled with the voices of the combined choruses, over 250 singers strong, performing together in harmony.

"Did you know there are thousands of women in the Nordic Region who sing barbershop?" asked the Show Chorus President Helen Lindberg. "This genuinely American song style has whetted our appetites to sing not only in quartets but as barbershop choirs, of which *Rönninge*

Show Chorus is the largest and most successful in the Nordic region. We are taking the opportunity on our way to the *International Competition* in Honolulu, to drop in on our sister-choir and gold medalists, *Harborlites*. Why don't you also take the opportunity and drop in to listen to us on Saturday the first of November?"

A reception to welcome the members of the *Rönninge Show Chorus*, celebrate their performance, and enjoy more singing in an informal atmosphere will be held immediately following the concert at *The Point* in Long Beach.

Tickets for "How Swede It Is!" will go on sale July 1, 2008. For more information, visit the *Harborlites Chorus* website at www.harborliteschorus.org or call (949) 926-6415.

Author – Kathy Wright,
Harborlites member
Submitted by: Barbara Wells



Harborlites on the international stage in Calgary, Canada.

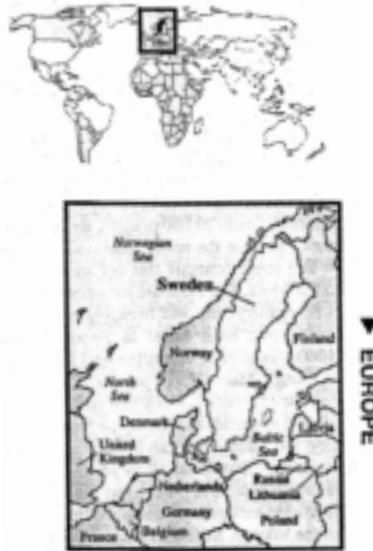


Celebration after we won. From the left: Lynne Smith, Bobby Hickin, Diana Jones, Carol Bell, Barbara Wells and Carol Krenk.

Kingdom of Sweden

CultureGrams™ 2008
World Edition

Kingdom of Sweden



Boundary representations are not necessarily authoritative

BACKGROUND

Land and Climate. Sweden, one of the “three fingers” of Scandinavia, is just larger than the state of California. It covers 173,732 square miles (449,964 square kilometers). From the northern to the southern tip, Sweden is about 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometers) long, but only 310 miles (500 kilometers) wide. Thousands of tiny islands line the coast. Mountains form much of the northwest, but most of Sweden is relatively flat with some rolling hills. Many rivers flow from the mountains through the forests and into the Baltic Sea. Sweden is filled with lakes and rivers, which provide ample water for the country. More than half of the land is forested. Rivers in the Northland region (roughly the country’s northernmost two-thirds) provide most hydroelectric power.

North of the Arctic Circle, winters are long and cold, while summers are short and pleasant. But summer’s “midnight sun” makes the days long. Despite Sweden’s northern location, most of the country has a relatively temperate climate, moderated by warm Gulf Stream currents. July temperatures in Stockholm average 64°F (18°C); January temperatures average 27°F (-3°C). Snow remains on the ground about one hundred days each year.

History. Sweden has been inhabited for nearly five thousand years and is the home of the Gothic peoples who battled

the Roman Empire. In the ninth century, Rurik, a semilegendary chief of the Swedes, is said to have founded Russia. Christianity was introduced in the 11th century and adopted by the monarchy. Queen Margrete I of Denmark united Denmark, Norway, and Sweden in the Union of Kalmar in 1397.

Sweden remained fairly autonomous and began its own parliament in 1435. It became an independent kingdom in 1523, with Gustaf I Vasa as ruler. The kingdom fought wars with Denmark and Russia in the 16th and 17th centuries, and by the 17th century, Sweden was one of the Great Powers of Europe. It acquired Norway in 1814 through the Napoleonic Wars. During the 19th century, however, Swedish power declined. Finland was part of Sweden until 1809, when it briefly became an archdukedom of Russia. Norway became independent in 1905. The Frenchman Jean Baptiste Bernadotte was elected Sweden’s crown prince in 1810 and became king in 1818 as Karl XIV Johan. His dynasty continues today.

During the 20th century, neutrality and nonalignment were cornerstones of Sweden’s foreign policy, keeping it out of both world wars and allowing it to transform its rather poor society into a prosperous social welfare state. With increased European integration and the end of the Cold War, Sweden joined the European Union (EU) in 1995.

Sweden’s image as a peaceful, egalitarian society, with relatively low crime, was shaken in 1986 when Prime Minister

Olof Palme was assassinated on the streets of Stockholm. Palme was succeeded by Ingvar Carlsson of the Social Democrat Party. After the rejection of his strict economic reforms in 1990, Carlsson resigned and led a minority government until elections in 1991. The new prime minister, Carl Bildt of the Moderate Party, formed a coalition government. Bildt’s administration concentrated on economic challenges and negotiated Sweden’s entry into the EU.

The Social Democrats won the 1994 elections, and Ingvar Carlsson returned to power. Carlsson retired from the party leadership in November 1995 and was replaced by his finance minister, Göran Persson. A fiscal conservative, Persson continued economic reforms aimed at improving the country’s finances. Although a member of the EU, Sweden opted out of joining Europe’s Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) in 1999 and again in 2003 because voters opposed giving up local control over economic issues such as welfare services and interest rates. A coalition headed by Fredrik Reinfeldt’s Moderate party replaced the longstanding Social Democrat government in 2006. Reinfeldt aims to decrease unemployment in part by cutting taxes.

THE PEOPLE

Population. Sweden’s population of just over 9 million is growing at 0.16 percent per year. More than 80 percent of Swedes live in the southern third of the country. At least 85 percent of the people are ethnic Swede. Finns compose about 5 percent of the population, most are immigrants from Finland, but some are native to northern Sweden. A small indigenous minority (up to 20,000 people), the Sami (pronounced “SAWme”), lives in the north. Traditionally, they herded reindeer. While some continue that occupation, most are involved in other fields. The Sami are sometimes called Lapps, but this is a derogatory term and, therefore, not encouraged in Sweden. Immigrants have added to Sweden’s population since the 1960s; Swedish immigration laws are some of the most liberal in Europe. More than 10 percent of Swedish citizens were born outside of Sweden. Many immigrants come from neighboring Nordic countries as well as the former Yugoslavia, Iraq, Turkey, and Latin American or African countries.

Continued on page 28

Kingdom of Sweden

Continued from page 27

Language. Swedes speak Swedish – a Germanic language that is closely related to Danish and Norwegian, and more distantly related to Icelandic. It developed from Old Norse, the language of the Vikings. Swedish emerged as a distinct language around the 10th century, but speakers of Swedish, Danish, and Norwegian can still understand each other. The Sami speak their own language and the Finnish minority speaks Finnish. Most immigrants speak their native tongue at home. Many people speak English, which is also taught in the schools.

Religion. Sweden, like most of Europe, is a highly secular society. Freedom of religion is guaranteed by the constitution. Most Swedes (about 80 percent) are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church but rarely attend church services. The Lutheran Church still enjoys limited support from the state; however, a complete legal separation of church and state took place in 2000. Now all church decisions are made by church leaders rather than the government. Membership is growing in other religious organizations. Most of these are various other Christian churches, such as the Roman Catholic faith, which has a following of about 1 percent of the population. Other groups, such as Muslims and Jews, are also expanding, primarily because of the immigrant population.

General Attitudes. Swedes are somewhat more reserved than people in the United States. Friendships are important but take time to develop. Swedes are proud of their nation, as well as their regions and towns. Visitors who recognize this pride are careful not to praise another area over the one being visited. Swedes value modesty and material security. Punctuality is also emphasized in various aspects of daily life.

Sweden has created an egalitarian society in which men and women enjoy equal access to opportunities for personal advancement. In addition, Swedes highly value their extensive social welfare system, which provides for most of the population's health, education, and retirement benefits. While public sentiment in the early 1990s led to some cuts in the system, most people oppose deep changes in what are called "cradle-to-grave" benefits.

Sweden takes great pride in awarding the Nobel Prizes each year, with the

exception of the Nobel Peace Prize, which Norway sponsors. These prizes are given to significant contributors in the areas of chemistry, literature, medicine, and physics. Alfred Bernhard Nobel (1833-96), the inventor of dynamite and a wealthy Swedish businessman, sponsored the prizes.

Personal Appearance. European fashions are common in Sweden, and Swedes are generally considered quite trendy. However, because of the country's cooler climate, Swedes wear warm clothing more often than other Europeans. Dress is generally conservative; it is important to be neat and clean in public. Swedes may not dress up as much as people in other countries when they go out. They prefer to avoid glamorous clothing but are still fashionable. Traditional costumes, which vary by region, are worn on special occasions.

CUSTOMS AND COURTESIES

Greetings. Swedes commonly shake hands when meeting. Most adults will shake hands with each person in the room when entering or leaving a social setting. From a distance, one may nod the head or raise the hand to greet another person. People usually address each other by first name; they use titles only in very formal situations. One answers the phone with *Hallå* (Hello) and clearly identifies oneself. The most common greeting is the casual *Hej* (pronounced HEY, meaning "Hi") and the most common way to say "Good-bye" is *Hej då*. However, more formal phrases include *God dag* (Good day), *God morgon* (Good morning), and *Adjö* (Good-bye).

Gestures. Eye contact is important during conversation. Swedes avoid excessive hand gestures when speaking. Chewing gum, yawning, or having one's hands in the pockets when speaking to another person is considered impolite. Although in the past people seldom embraced in public or put their arm around another's shoulder, the population in general is becoming more casual and such displays of friendship are increasing.

Visiting. Swedes enjoy visiting one another, but they do not often visit without prior arrangement. Hosts usually offer guests coffee or something else to drink. People most often entertain in the home; it is popular to invite friends over for an evening meal. Guests are expected to arrive on time. In bad weather, they usually bring an indoor pair of shoes to wear after entering the home. An odd

number of flowers or a box of chocolates is a common gift for the hosts. Sweets for the children are appropriate if the parents approve. Guests unwrap flowers before giving them to the hostess. If they do not give a gift, guests usually send a thank-you card later in the mail, or at least call later. It is also customary to thank hosts for their hospitality the next time a guest sees them.

It is impolite to "eat and run." Swedes expect guests to stay for coffee and conversation, even as late as 11 p.m. Conversation, ranging over a wide variety of topics, is a popular leisure activity. In fact, it's quite popular to meet over coffee and spend time chatting at a café. When leaving, guests say good-bye before they put on their coats.

Eating. Swedes eat a light breakfast around 7 a.m., and they might have a coffee or tea break at midmorning. The main meal (*middag*) traditionally was eaten at midday. This is still the case in most rural areas, but urban residents eat only a light lunch at noon and then have their main meal around 6 p.m. Swedes eat in the continental style, meaning they hold the fork in the left hand and the knife in the right. A dinner knife is not used as a butter knife, since separate butter knives are usually provided. Diners keep hands, but not elbows, above the table during the meal. When finished eating, a person places the utensils side by side on the plate. Leaving any food on the plate is impolite. Guests usually wait for the hosts to offer second helpings. Declining is not impolite, but guests may take more helpings. Food is placed in serving dishes on the table, so if the dishes are empty there is usually no more food; asking for more would be impolite.

For some occasions, the host makes a welcome speech at the beginning of the meal. The host then makes a toast (*skål*) and all dinner guests taste the wine. The guest of honor makes a speech during the dessert, elaborating on the meal and the charm of the hostess. Each guest personally thanks the host directly after the meal.

AT A GLANCE

Contact Information. Embassy of Sweden, 901 30th Street NW, Washington, DC 20007; phone (202) 467-2600; website www.swedenabroad.com. Scandinavian Tourist Board, P.O. Box 4649, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163; website www.visit-sweden.com; phone (212) 885-9700.

Scandinavian Heritage Festival 2008 Joining Oktoberfest NW

Scandinavian Heritage Festival
October 3, 2008 – October 5, 2008
Puyallup, WA

Description:

The Scandinavian Heritage Festival Participants, Exhibitors and Vendors are pleased to invite you for three full days of festivities with Scandinavian cultural exhibits, arts and crafts, music, food folk dancing and Scandinavian gift items. Each day there will be ethnic entertainment, Dancing and Singing. Demonstrations of Lefse making, Rosemaling, Spinning, Bobbin lace making. Food sales of Vikings, Swedish Pancakes, Scandinavian Breads, Open faced Sandwiches, Lefse, Cookies and Scandinavian food Products. Booths selling Scandinavian Gift items offer the highest quality of imported products and hand made items. Festival raffle with Grand Prize of two round trip tickets to Scandinavia donated by SAS and SHF. Additional Scandinavian items to be raffled!! Need not be present to win. Drawing held Sunday Oct. 5th at 5:00 pm.

Program:

Nordic Spirit, Normanna Male Chorus, Katrilli, Finnish Folkdancers, Nordiska Folkdancers, Svea Duo, Nordlys, Portland area Folkdancers, Beth Kolle, harp, vocal, Smilin Scandinavians, Leikarringen of Seattle, Poulsbo Children Dancers, Ya Sure Ya Betcha Band, formally Sylvia and Fjordsong Band and more.

Location:

Puyallup Fair & Event Center (Puyallup Fairgrounds), Pavilion Hall, 9th and Meridian, Puyallup

Times:

11:00 am – 7:00 pm Friday – Saturday
11:00 – 6:00 Sunday

Admission and Parking:

Admission: To all events, (incl. Oktoberfest NW), Friday 11-3 FREE, Friday 3-7 \$8, Saturday \$8, Sunday \$4 (half Price), children 12 and under free. Free Parking in Gold and Blue lots. Overnight RV parking for a fee in the RV parking lot. Entrance – Gold or Blue gate of fairgrounds at 9th and Meridian. 425-881-1544, desireeomdal@hotmail.com, www.oktoberfestnw.com/SHF.html

Vasa Park Hosts 20th SAHS Midsummer

The 20th Annual SAHS Midsummer celebration was held at *Vasa Park* in Budd Lake NJ on June 21st, 2008. SAHS, (*Scandinavian American Heritage Society*) was founded in the late 1970's and began holding Midsummer celebrations 20 years ago. This was the 3rd consecutive year that the SAHS committee has held its annual event at beautiful *Vasa Park*. A little over three years ago the *Board of Trustee's of Vasa Park* approached the SAHS committee to see if they would be interested in holding their annual event at *Vasa Park*. Many members of the SAHS committee were dual members of *Vasa, NJ District # 6* and the *Sons of Norway Norbu Lodge*, which is part of the 3rd District of the *Sons of Norway*. A joint venture was established and the event moved to *Vasa Park*.

The SAHS committed is dedicated to providing great Nordic cultural entertainment and education. They have several scholarships for people in continuing education. SWEA has also been involved in the *Midsummer* celebrations and is responsible for raising the May Pole. *Vasa* would normally hold its *Barnens Dag* event that weekend but decided to include the performances of our three Children's clubs into the SAHS event. Over 500 hundred people showed up to enjoy the 25+ Nordic vendors, dancing, Scandinavian Music, and barn fire at the end of the evening.

Vasa Park is host to many Nordic events throughout the year, including the *Scanfest on Labor Day* weekend. The *Scanfest* is the largest Nordic festival on the east coast and draws over 4000 people. For more information about *Vasa Park* please visit our web site at www.vasaparknj.com.

Submitted by: John Larsson, GL



Over 500 people visited SAHS Midsummer celebration.



7th Annual SCANDINAVIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

A Celebration of Scandinavian Culture
Representing Scandinavian Organizations
Denmark * Iceland * Finland * Norway * Sweden

Daily Programs, Events, Sales and Demonstrations

Scandinavian Music, Food, Arts and Crafts

Raffle Prizes

Grand Prize:

2 Round Trip Tickets to Scandinavia (certain restrictions apply)

Donated by:

Scandinavian Airlines and Scandinavian Heritage Festival

October 3rd –5th, 2008

Friday – Sunday 11:00 am – 7:00pm

Admission: Friday 11-3 FREE, Friday 3-7 \$8, Saturday \$8, Sunday \$4. Children 12 and under Free

Free Parking in Gold or Blue lot. Enter through Gold or Blue Gate. RV Parking Available

Pavilion Hall - Western Washington Fairgrounds
Puyallup, Washington

425-881-1544 or e-mail desireeomdal@hotmail.com www.oktoberfestnw.com/SHF.htm

In Memoriam
Till minne av hädangångna
ordenssyskon genom vilkas
bortgång syskonkretsen gjort
en kännbar förlust
In memory of our departed
members who will be
sorely missed

ARIZONA

HARRY OLSON, member of Tucson Lodge #601, passed away in Green Valley, AZ, on September 28, 2007. He was born in Chicago on August 23, 1919. He joined Tucson Lodge #601 on January 16, 1988.

CALIFORNIA

CARL H. ANDERSON passed way in Inglewood, CA, on May 29, 2008, at the age of 80. Carl was born in Los Angeles, CA, on March 18, 1928. He joined Mayflower Lodge #445, on June 3, 1965. He received his 25-year pin, Life Membership in 1993 and 40-year pin in 2006.

WALTER E. OSTERBERG passed away on February 27, 2008, at the age of 92, in Seal Beach, CA. He was born on July 15, 1915, in Los Angeles, CA. He joined Mayflower Lodge #445 on April 27, 1933. He received Life Membership in 1981, 25-year pin in 1958, 60-year pin in 1993, and 70-year pin in 2003.

MAUREEN ROSE passed away February 15, 2008, in Pahrump, NV. She was born in Burbank, CA, on January 16, 1950. She joined Oak Leaf Lodge #685 on December 1, 2000. She is survived by her mother Lorraine Parriott who is a member of Oak Leaf Lodge #685, daughter Patty and 3 grandchildren.

DAVID DEAN SCHOLLING passed away May 28, 2008. He was born on January 5, 1942. He served with the U.S. Air Force in 1966-67 in Saigon, Vietnam. He was initiated into Jenny Lind Lodge #388 on May 3, 1994. Survivors are cousins Robert Gustad and Margaret Gustad-Van De Kamp.

ILLINOIS

SVEA LYNETTE HUNDLEY ERD died on April 17, 2008, in Geneva, IL, at the age of 96. She was born December 13, 1911. She was a 59-year member of Viljan Lodge #349, having joined on April 2, 1949. She is survived by a son, daughter and brother, George Michelson.

JAMES E. NYSTEDT died on May 16, 2008, in Winfield, IL, at the age of 63. He was born June 25, 1944 in Milaca, MN. He was an active member of Viljan Lodge #349, having joined November 18, 1999. He is survived by his wife MaryJean, 2 sons, and 3 grandchildren.

IOWA

JOHN ROBERT (JACK) NELSON passed away on April 10, 2008, in Florida. He was born June 20, 1928. He is survived by his wife Marjorie, a son and 2 daughters, their spouses and 7 grandchildren, and 2 brothers. He was proud of his Swedish heritage.

MICHIGAN

JEAN EMMA CARLSON of Superior Lodge #423 of Marquette, MI, passed away on April 4, 2008. She was born March 24, 1917. Jean was proud of her Scandinavian heritage. Survivors include Judith Baldwin, Kristin Zorza, Barbara Murk, and Jon Peterson.

MINNESOTA

KRISTIAN PEDERSEN FROST passed away on November 17, 2007, at the age of 85, in Maple Plain, MN. He was born October 29, 1922, in Withee, WI. He joined Runeberg Lodge #137 on July 25, 1975. He is survived by his wife Ruby, son Peter (Helen) Frost, daughters Kristine Frost and Jensine (David) Moyer, grandson Kristian, siblings Anna Laursen and Thorvald (Joan) Frost.

WARREN R. JOHNSON passed away on June 25, 2007, at the age of 84, in Woodbury, MN. He was born September 3, 1922, in Almelund, MN. Warren was a member of Runeberg Lodge #137 for 23 years. He is survived by his wife Jacqueline, daughter Rebecca, son Joseph, sister Betty Lou Opegard, and brother Vernon.

MARVIN J. SJOBERG passed away on February 22, 2007, in New Hope, MN, at the age of 85. He was born on June 27, 1921, in Minneapolis, MN. Marvin joined Runeberg Lodge #137 in March 1977. Marvin is survived by his wife Dorothy, 2 children, Mark and Christine, and 4 grandchildren, Christian Hanna, Sophie, and Jacob.

OHIO

DARE L. DAHLSTROM died March 4, 2008, at the age of 100. She was the wife of the late Phillip, mother of Phillip (wife Verena), grandmother of Tonje Blakestad and John Dahlstrom, great-grandmother of Ludvig, Eirik, Camilla, Phillip, and Jonas; sister of Reba Goins, Lucille Arp, Hilda Bracey, and the late Howard and Homer Lowrance, Mable Herron, Doris Heidinger, Margaret Samples, and Mildred Hunt. Dare was born in Boone, NC, on August 29, 1907, and joined Nobel-Monitor Lodge #130 on February 29, 1949. She was Life Member.

LUCILLE L. HEWITT passed away on January 23, 2008, in Cleveland, OH, at the age of 83. She was born on June 17, 1924, in Chicago, IL. Lucille joined Nobel-Monitor Lodge #130 on September 11, 1988. Wife of the late Frederick, aunt of Robert Lieber (Ceci), James (Kathleen), Donald (Duffy), Richard (April), and Lori Lieber Ragain (Rex), special Grandma for Alexandra Mei and Darren Mei. Lucille served her lodge as Assistant Recording Secretary.

TEXAS

DELPHINE FRANSON MORLBERG passed away June 25, 2008, in Austin, TX. She was born on September 24, 1914. She served as a nurse in the U.S. Navy in WWII. She was a member of Carl Widen Lodge #743. Survivors are husband Gunnar Morlberg, daughters Janis and Barbara, a grandchild and great-grandchildren.

WASHINGTON

CLARENCE W. JOHNSON passed away February 6, 2008, at the age of 83. After graduation he entered the Navy and was stationed on a minesweeper during WWII. He returned home to the family dairy farm and later started his own logging business. He is survived by his wife, 2 sons and 2 daughters.

MARIE BRITA MOON passed away on April 1, 2008. She was born on April 29, 1908, in Tillamook, OR. She lived with daughter Janice and husband Chuck in Bellevue, WA. Grandmother to 3, great-grandmother to 5. She was president of the disbanded Linnea Lodge in North Bend, OR, her husband was Chaplain of Vasa Lodge #378.

DONALD PEARSON was born on August 29, 1936, in Astoria, OR. He joined Astor Lodge #215 in 1973 and Svea Lodge #469 in 1985. Donald was proud of his Swedish heritage and served 10 years as Chairman of Svea Lodge #469.

WISCONSIN

MARILYN BITTICK died on May 27, 2008, at the age of 78. She was from Wautoma, WI. She is survived by her daughter and son, stepsons, and step-grandchildren. Marilyn was a Linde Lodge #492 member for 14 years. She was a faithful church member and volunteered in her community.

EVANGELINE "VANG" NELSON died on May 14, 2008, at the age of 95. She lived in Racine, WI. She is survived by children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Vang was a Linde Lodge #492 member for 29 years. She loved life, nature, her car, and visitors.

MEMORIAL NOTICES

should be mailed with check or money order to: Marie Carlson, 9560 Curberry Drive, Mentor, OH 44060. The fee is **\$8.00 for 1 column inch. Longer obituaries will be charged a flat rate of \$25.00.** All notices **MUST** be typed and **WRITTEN** in a format similar to those in this column. **NO** newspaper clippings.

At home in a tropical World Heritage Site

Is there such a thing as a 5-star residence on a 100-star site?



The Location



It's difficult to describe the valley created by Saint Lucia's soaring national landmark, the Piton Mountains without resorting to the most extravagant superlatives.

Breathtaking, heart-pounding, heavenly, magnificent, amazing, unique, inspiring, romantic and stunning come to mind.

Justified as these words may be, it is a fact rather than adjectives that tells the true story of the valley's natural beauty: UNESCO has seen fit to award it the coveted designation of a World Heritage Site.

This is where ground has been broken on The Jalousie Residences – a *ne plus ultra* private residential cocoon of no more than 30 villas and 60 plots for unique single-family vacation homes scattered throughout its 186 acres of (here go the superlatives) lush tropical beauty that overlook the azure waters of the Caribbean Sea. The indigenous hummingbirds help make it difficult to imagine anything more appealing than a residence in an exclusive World Heritage Site on the edge of a magic rain forest that gives you the feeling of going back to the time of creation itself.

The government of Saint Lucia protects the marine "park" off the beach below; where you find some of the Caribbean's best snorkeling and diving a short swim offshore (home owners have deeded access, by the way). Ownership also comes with membership in one of the seven new PGA Golf Clubs and Courses with transport to and fro by helicopter. The exclusive Residences will include a first-rate spa and two very fine restaurants in a Clubhouse to be designed by a world-renowned architect. While your residence may have its own pool, there is also an exclusive, homeowner pool and a lake. On top of all this, Saint Lucia itself is a highly civilized island with great opportunities for dining, entertainment and sporting events.

The developer purchased this magnificent site in 1988 and offers a variety of plans that mirror the height of luxury for the world's most discriminating buyers. While you may buy your building lot freehold in order to accommodate one-off custom homes, the residences are leasehold. It's all yours in perpetuity to live in, rent or sell with no

restrictions. The management provides complete maintenance and household staffing (Jalousie Residences will provide services of a UK-trained butler, maids and cooks) and will rent your property for you should you so desire. Advice on banking and legal matters is also provided, as are office services.

Of all the luxury real estate development now available in the red-hot Caribbean market, the Jalousie Residences offers a truly unique and limited opportunity. Indeed, if the three rules for success in real estate are location, location and location, this valley in a virtual paradise has to be at the top of the world list. This is the world's only World Heritage Site where you can have an address and a parcel. Oprah Winfrey summed it up best when she said that the view is one of the first of five must-see places in your lifetime. Indeed, the Pitons are number one. Perhaps it is time to reserve your place in heaven now.

For further information contact Jalousie Residences' agent at:
+1 440 247 4003



The Property

Bättre.

Or **better** as you say in English. By the year 2020 we aim to reduce CO₂ emissions by 20%, regardless of traffic growth. In other words – simply better.



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A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER 