



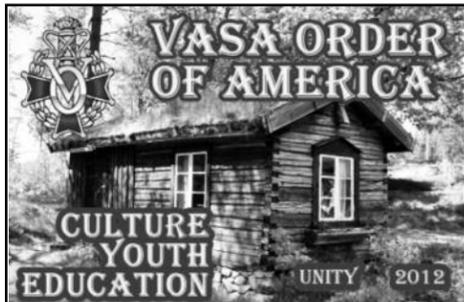
THE VASA STAR

Vasastjärnan

Publication of THE VASA ORDER OF AMERICA

Spring 2012

Education Stamp Campaign 2012



Thank you to the many members who have enthusiastically stepped up in support of the Spring Education Stamp Campaign 2012. Your generosity will be gratefully appreciated by the many students who will benefit by way of scholarships for Sjölund Language Village and for college or vocational school, for no-interest student loans, and for grants to our Children's Clubs. Your support will help to achieve the goal of complete restoration of the Education Fund and the Scholarship Program.

The Spring Education Stamp Campaign 2012 is in full swing and everyone should have already received their stamps in the mail. Please use these stamps on your mail throughout the year to show your Vasa pride. Every donation, whether large or small, shows your support for our young members in their educational endeavors. Feel free to use the stamps whether or not you make a donation. Publicity for our Order is very important, also. If you need more stamps, please contact Grand Secretary Joanie Graham (perhaps with another small donation) and she will be happy to send them to you.

Ingvar Wikstrom Swedish American of the Year 2012

Ingvar Wikstrom, born 1928, is a praised entrepreneur who has encouraged Swedish food culture in the USA. Ingvar Wikstrom grew up on a farm at Österlen in southern Sweden. He learned the ethics of hard work and how to prepare foods from scratch, their natural organic state. Ingvar's background, growing up in the countryside and the knowledge he gained in farming, did turn out to be valuable to his future career in the USA.

Agricultural studies in Sweden were followed by studies at the Swedish College *Augustana* in Rock Island, Illinois. While still in school Ingvar worked part-time at a catering business. Ingvar returned to Sweden after finishing studies and managed his family farm. Some years later he decided to emigrate to the USA to fulfill his *American Dream*. He was newly married and the couple settled down in Chicago.

Ingvar worked with food. In 1960 he bought his first delicatessen store in Chicago. After 15 years of owning and running a *deli* Ingvar's business had outgrown the store, thus it was time to move. In August 1975 Ingvar and his wife bought *Schott's Deli* in Andersonville. It was a traditional old style Swedish American deli, which was started by a Swedish family in 1921. The Wikstrom couple reshaped the store into a new Swedish store, which would become the *Wikstrom's Delicatessen*. The business was a success. Wikstrom's became an institution in the Scandinavian Community.

Customers came from all over the USA. In 1970 Ingvar Wikstrom started a Mail Order Business of Swedish Foods and gifts. *Wikstrom's Gourmet Foods & Catering* is the largest Swedish Delicatessen in the USA. Ingvar's homemade foods are recipes passed down from his mother and his own creations, such as his homemade herring, which is trademarked as *Herr Ing's Herring*.

In 2007 Ingvar Wikstrom closed his store to fully attend to catering. He has for instance delivered food to *Midsummer Fest* in Andersonville as well as to the *President of the USA*, Swedish organizations and companies and the Swedish Hospital. His customers come from all over the world. Wikstrom's is still known for its outstanding *Swedish Smorgasbord*, even though a Multi Ethnic and Gourmet menu also is served.

In 1997 Ingvar Wikstrom was recognized and awarded a diploma from the *Swedish Gastronomic Academy* for excellence in Swedish cooking and maintaining Swedish culinary traditions outside Sweden.

Ingvar Wikstrom has lived in Chicago for fifty years. He is devoted to his mission to promote Sweden, culinary traditions as well as other aspects of Swedish culture. Beyond his successful career in promoting Swedish food and culture in the USA, Ingvar has been active in many Swedish American organizations, for instance as President for *Andersonville Chamber of Commerce* and as a member of the Board at the *Swedish American Museum*.

Catherine Bringselius Nilsson
Chairman of the Swedish American of the Year Committee
E-post: cbringselius@gmail.com



Ingvar Wikstrom

Ingvar Wikstrom Årets Svensk-Amerikan 2012

Ingvar Wikstrom, född 1928, prisad entreprenör för svensk matkultur i USA. Uppvuxen på en bondgård på Österlen i Skåne lärde Ingvar sig värdet av hårt arbete och att framställa mat utifrån naturliga råvaror. Ingvars bakgrund och kunskap skulle visa sig bli ett framgångskoncept för hans fortsatta livsgärning.

Efter studier vid *Ystads Allmänna Läroverk* och *Hammenhög Lantbruksskola* följde studier i USA vid *Augustana College, Rock Island*. Vid sidan om studierna jobbade Ingvar för en cateringfirma. Han återvände till Sverige, stannade ett par år och brukade jorden på fädernegården. 1959 beslöt sig dock Ingvar för att tillsammans med sin hustru flytta till USA och förverkliga sin "amerikanska dröm." Paret bosatte sig i Chicago.

Ingvar arbetade med livsmedel och 1960 köpte han sin första delikatessbutik i Chicago. 1975 köpte han en större butik, *Schott's Deli* i Andersonville, en traditionell svenskamerikansk delikatessaffär, som

han utvecklade och gav namnet *Wikstrom's*. Affärerna blomstrade, *Wikstrom's* hade blivit ett etablerat och aktat namn inom delikatessbranschen. Kunder kom från hela USA. Från 1970 kunde man även handla svensk mat och svenska presentartiklar via postorder. *Wikstrom's Gourmet Foods & Catering* är idag den största svenska delikatessbutiken i USA. Ingvars succé bygger på hans mors och egna recept, som svenska köttbullar och varumärket *Herr Ing's Herring*.

Ingvar stängde sin butik 2007 för att "bara" ägna sig åt catering. Det kan till exempel handla om att leverera mat till *Midsummer Fest* i Andersonville eller till USA:s President. Genom sin webbplats säljer Ingvar Wikstrom idag svenska delikatesser över hela världen. Hans svenska smörgåsbord är berömt.

1997 fick Ingvar Wikstrom ta emot *Gastronomiska Akademiens diplom* för "föredömlig framställning och distribution av svensk mat i USA", en utmärkelse som prisade hans svenska matlagning och marknadsföring av svensk kulinarisk kultur utanför Sverige.

Ingvar har bott i Chicago de senaste 50 åren. Det har varit en passion för honom att lyfta fram Sverige och värna om svenska traditioner i USA. Utöver sin framgångsrika yrkesbana inom svensk matkultur har Ingvar engagerat sig i svensk-amerikanska organisationer, såsom President för *Andersonville Chamber of Commerce* och styrelseledamot i *Swedish American Museum Center*.

Vasa Orden av Amerika har årligen sedan 1960 utnämnt en *Årets Svensk-Amerikan* för att hedra våra svenska emigranter. 52 personer har fått utmärkelsen *Årets Svensk-Amerikan*. De representerar ett brett spektrum av kompetens och talang, kvinnor lika väl som män, med svenska rötter.

Catherine Bringselius Nilsson
Ordförande Årets Svenskamerikan-kommitté
E-post: cbringselius@gmail.com

Yearly, since 1960, a Swedish American of the Year has been chosen by the Swedish part of the Vasa Order of America. It is meant to honour our emigrated fellow countrymen. By now 52 persons have been rewarded this recognition. They represent a wide area of competence and talents, women as well as men with Swedish ancestors.



Bill Lundquist

THE GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE

Dear Vasa Brothers and Sisters,
Hopefully you've received your 2012 Vasa Stamp Fundraising material in support of the Education Fund. The stamp this year (photo by VGM Tore Kellgren) is a Scandinavian stuga in a wooded setting. I hope you enjoy placing it on your correspondence throughout the year. We all want to see the Education Fund restored and the Scholarship program healthy as soon as possible. We **can** make that happen together if all members donate even a small amount. This year's Fundraiser could bring us

\$100,000.00 closer to our goal if all 10,000 members in the US and Canada donate simply \$10.00! Please join me by donating generously to help make this year's Fundraiser successful.

As the second year of my term in office comes to an end I want to offer my heartfelt thanks all Districts who continue donating up to 5% of their unused allocation annually in the OA&B toward the restoration for the Vasa National Archives funding. I continue to explain this opportunity and the fact that the decision to approve this

action was made unanimously by the delegates to the Grand Lodge Convention in 2010. The National Archives is a vital arm of the Order and sustaining it is absolutely necessary. To date there has been no other viable option to provide for the daily operation of the Archives other than personal donations, fundraisers and the unique opportunity of the OA&B donation from each District. It is imperative that all members understand the situation and the opportunity. I invite members with questions or concerns to contact their regional Grand

Lodge Board Member or me directly. As I've said many times, I alone cannot restore Funds. It will take all members working together in **Unity**.

Now that I'm entering the second half of my term I would like to place a strong emphasis on programming. Members from many Districts have voiced their desire for assistance developing cultural programs they can use to help keep the interest of their members. Remember, we lose more members through disinterest than death. A talented committee of Vasa leaders has been

Continued on page 3

THE VASA STAR (USPS
657-020)

Spring 2012
Vol. 105, No. 2, Serial 848

Published by:
Vasa Order of America
vasaorder.com

HEADQUARTERS:

c/o Joan Graham
Grand Secretary
5838 San Jose Avenue
Richmond, CA 94804
Phone: 510-526-5512
E-mail: vasajlg@aol.com

Grand Master:

Bill Lundquist
1456 Kennebec Rd.
Grand Blanc, MI 48439
Phone: 810-695-3248
Cell Phone: 810-845-5065
E-mail: wmlund1@aol.com

Vasa Star Editor:

Send articles, photos & Memorials to:
Annelie Lindberg
105 Gorrión Ave
Ventura, CA 93004
vasaeditor@earthlink.net
805-672-0032

**Circulation Manager:
(All Address Changes)**

Joan Graham
5838 San Jose Avenue
Richmond, CA 94804
Phone: 510-526-5512
E-mail:
circulationvasastar@gmail.com

Send bottom section of white copy of application for new members to her.

Membership Chairman:

Art Bjorkner
31 Vasa Drive,
Hackettstown NJ
07840-5314 USA

Advertising:

Orders for advertising should be sent to:
Annelie Lindberg
105 Gorrión Ave
Ventura, CA 93004
vasaeditor@earthlink.net
805-672-0032

THE VASA STAR

Introducing Annelie Lindberg Vasa Star Editor

The Summer 2012 issue of *The Vasa Star* will be edited by me. Yes, I have been chosen to pull together this amazing publication which has documented and shared the memorable moments of the Vasa Lodges for many, many years.

Before graduating from UCLA, I worked as the Swedish Editor for the *California Veckoblad* and *The Swedish American Tribune*. I loved that job, and it was sad that it could not sustain a newly graduated and eager Swedish American. Now that I have had a long career in business, teaching and volunteering, I welcome the opportunity to contribute my strengths and skills towards *The Vasa Star*.

My parents, Rune and Gunny Lindberg, were Swedish immigrants who married in Chicago. Dad was the pastry chef at The Palmer House when I was born. Heading west a few years later, my parents fell in love with California and let roots grow deep in Pasadena, with Skandia Lodge being our home. We owned North Star Bakery and supplied southern California with the best limpa, princess cakes and kaffebröd for many of the Vasa festivities over the years. I became Lucia for the Swedish Hollywood Club and was presented with a trip to Sweden. I used that to study at the University of Stockholm for my junior year, and also was able to obtain a work permit and worked in the hotel and tourist industry. I was invited back to Stockholm the following summer to work and loved being able to spend another summer in Sweden.

I am fluent in Swedish, and know a bit of German and some French as well. I have been a member of Skandia Lodge #247 in Pasadena since I was in grade school, and a 3 year member of Northern Lights Lodge #620 in Ventura where I now live.

That's about all there is room to write for this issue. I look forward to receiving your articles in both Swedish and English for me to include in upcoming issues.

Annelie Lindberg
vasaeditor@earthlink.net

Letter From the Editor (pro tem)

Thank you to all who have given their kind words and support to me as I have attempted to keep *The Vasa Star* coming to you while we search for a new editor. I am very happy to welcome Annelie Lindberg as our new Vasa Star Editor. Annelie will begin her duties immediately as she gathers the articles you will send to her for the Summer issue. All articles are due to her by July 1st.

In our efforts to produce a *Vasa Star* that you can hold in your hands, but also to cut the cost of producing it, we hope you will like this new format. While the magazine was a beautiful presentation, the cost became too much of a burden for our shrinking budget. Thank you to those members who have elected to read *The Vasa Star* online through the Vasa web site. You are helping to reduce the cost of printing and postage.

You will notice two new features in this issue – **Q&A**, where you can ask any question you have concerning the Vasa Order of America and **Letters to the Editor** – share your thoughts and concerns and give positive suggestions and solutions for the Good of the Order.

We look forward to the new era for *The Vasa Star* and to the many plans and ideas that Annelie will bring with her. Welcome, Annelie!

Joanie Graham, GS



PAGE 9

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Archives News3
Grand Lodge News4
Culture6
District Lodge News8
Lodge News8
Swedish News11
New Members11
In Memoriam12



PAGE 10

**Advertising Prices
RATES
UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

CORRECTION

In my review of "Chicago Swedes" by Lilly Setterdahl in the first issue this year I included Bror Johansson among authors from Chicago. The truth is that the book about Bror Johansson was written by Lilly Setterdahl. I regret my mistake. Stig Sälgeback, GLCD Sweden.

I min recension av Lilly Setterdahls bok "Chicago Swedes" i årets första nummer tog jag med Bror Johansson bland författare från Chicago. Sanningen är, att boken om Bror Johansson skrevs av Lilly Setterdahl. Jag beklagar mitt misstag. Stig Sälgeback, SLKL Sverige.

Deadlines for The Vasa Star:

Winter Deadline is January 1;
Spring Deadline is April 1
Summer Deadline is July 1;
Fall Deadline is October 1

Picture and article, 200 words or less.

For Letters to the Editor column, 150 words or less.

Please send pictures of good quality in order for them to reproduce well in The Vasa Star. Electronically submitted photos should be scanned in JPEG format at a resolution of 300 dpi.

For submitted Lodge articles,
please add city and state. Thanks!
Price for Christmas Greetings – due October 1 – \$30.00 column inch
Deadline for Lucia articles is January 1

IN MEMORIAM

Please read instructions on how to send and pay for Obituaries.

AUDIO-VISUAL DIRECTOR

Mike Pearson

7309 New Hampshire Pl
Hammond, IN 46323-2937 USA
Phone: (219) 588-4752

E-mail: audiovisual.vasaorder@yahoo.com

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.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

For the Good of the Order - presenting this new column where members may share their ideas, thoughts, and concerns relating to The Vasa Order of America. Please keep your comments under 150 words, and remember our motto: Generosity, Truth and Unity. Letters will be printed as space allows.

Q & A

Are donations to Vasa tax deductible?

Since The Vasa Order of America is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization, members often wonder if their donations are deductible. If you donate books, perhaps, or a filing cabinet or bookcase to your local lodge, or donate money to a lodge scholarship fund, will you be able to claim these donations on your income tax return?

First we need to look at our classification – we are a 501(c)(8) organization, which is a non-profit, tax-exempt classification for fraternal organizations. As such, some donations are deductible and some are not. Here is the complete statement provided by the IRS to the Grand Lodge in 2008:

"Contributions to the Education/Scholarship Funds within the Vasa Order of America, a 501(c)(8) organization, are tax deductible under Internal Revenue Code 170(c)(4). The portion of dues designated at \$1.50 per member for the Vasa Archives and \$1.00 per member for the Education Fund are deductible under Section 170(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code. All other contributions or gifts to Vasa Order of America are not tax deductible as charitable contributions for Federal income tax purposes."

So, in a nutshell: Monetary donations to the Education Fund and to scholarship funds are deductible, as are the \$1.50 and \$1.00 portion of your dues. Donations to the lodge in general are not deductible.

All donations to the **Vasa National Archives**, a 501(c)(3) organization, are tax-deductible. This includes "gifts-in-kind" like filing cabinets, bookcases, etc.

THE VASA STAR (ISSN 0746-0627) is published quarterly by the Vasa Order of America. Periodicals postage paid at Richmond, CA, and additional entries.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Vasa Star, 5838 San Jose Ave., Richmond, CA 94804.

Grand Master's Message

Continued from page 1

appointed who I'm confident can drive programs for learning the Swedish language, costume design, dance, music, genealogy, literature and countless other subjects.

Major budget cuts were required in 2010 including reducing the cost of the Vasa Star publication by 50%. In order to make issues available to the membership some had to be electronic only. Input from the membership told us this was unsatisfactory as many do not use the Internet and some simply want the hard copy. This necessitated changing the format to the less expensive option you are now reading. We recognize this format may not be what you desire but it is required to bring each issue into the hands of all members. We hope to return to a magazine style as cost permits. May I be the first to introduce Annelie Lindberg of Northern Light Lodge, Ventura, California, our new Vasa Star Editor. Annelie will introduce herself in this issue.

In closing, it has been a pleasure visiting with so many members at District Conventions throughout the year. The hospitality and support you've shown Sheila and me is overwhelming.

*In Truth and Unity,
Bill Lundquist
Grand Master*

Kära Systrar och Bröder i Vasa!

Förhoppningsvis har ni fått era Vasa Brevmärken för insamlingskampanjen 2012. Årets brevmärke (foto av VGM Tore Kellgren) är en skandinavisk stuga i en skogsglänta. Jag hoppas det ger dig glädje när du sätter det på dina brev under året. Vi vill alla att Utbildningsfonden ska återställas och att Stipendieprogrammet blir det bästa möjliga. Tillsammans kan vi åstadkomma detta, om alla medlemmar donerar bara en liten summa. Årets insamling skulle kunna föra oss \$100.000,00 närmare vårt mål, om 10.000 medlemmar i USA och Kanada ger bara \$10,00 var! Jag ber er göra som jag: ge en generös donation, så att årets insamling blir en succé.

Nu när mitt andra år som Stormästare snart är slut vill jag framföra mitt hjärtliga tack till alla distrikt som fortsätter att donera upp till 5% av sin oanvända årliga tilldelning ur OA&B för återställandet av Nationella Vasa-Arkivets tillgångar. Jag berättar ständigt om denna möjlighet och klagör att detta var ett enhälligt beslut, som togs av delegaterna till Storlogskonferensen 2010. Nationella Vasa-Arkivet är en

mycket viktig del av vår Orden och det är absolut nödvändigt att understödja det. Till dags dato har det inte funnits något annat lämpligt sätt att sörja för arkivets funktioner än privata donationer, insamlingar och den unika möjligheten för våra distrikt att donera medel från OA&B. Det är oerhört viktigt att alla medlemmar förstår denna speciella situation och den möjlighet som här erbjuds sig. Jag ber de medlemmar som har frågor om detta att kontakta sin regionala styrelsemedlem i Storlogen eller mig själv. Som jag har sagt många gånger så kan jag inte återställa våra fonder på egen hand. Det behövs att alla medlemmar arbetar tillsammans i **Enighet**.

När jag nu går in i andra halvan av min tid som Stormästare vill jag lägga en stark betoning på program.

Medlemmar från många distrikt har låtit mig veta att de önskar få hjälp med att utveckla kulturella program, som kan hålla intresset uppe hos medlemmarna. Som ni vet så förlorar vi fler medlemmar genom att de tappar intresset än att de går bort. En talangfull kommitte av Vasas ledare har utsetts och jag är övertygad om att de kan få igång program för att lära ut svenska språket, folkdräktsdesign, dans, musik, släktforskning, litteratur och många andra ämnen.

År 2010 nödvändiggjordes stora budgetnedskärningar, bl.a. måste kosnaden för Vasastjärnan reduceras med 50%.

För att alla kunna tillhandahålla tidskriften måste en del nummer ges ut enbart på nätet. Våra medlemmar tyckte inte att detta var tillfredsställande eftersom inte alla använder internet och många helt enkelt vill ha en tryckt tidning. Detta innebär att vi måste ta fram den billigare version som ni nu läser. Vi förstår att detta kanske inte är vad ni önskar men det är enda sättet att få den tryckt och levererad till alla medlemmar. Vi hoppas att vi kan gå tillbaka till den gamla stilen när ekonomin blir bättre. Nu vill jag vara den förste att hälsa Annelie Lindberg i logen Northern Light, Ventura, Kalifornien, vår nya redaktör för Vasastjärnan, välkommen. Annelie presenterar sig själv i det här numret.

Jag vill avsluta med att säga att det har varit mycket trevligt att tala med så många av våra medlemmar vid distriktskonferenser under året. Sheila och jag är överväldigade av den gästvänlighet och det stöd som ni har visat oss.

*I Sanning och Enighet,
Bill Lundquist
Stormästare*

Thank You

**From the Family of C. Richard Overberg
Past Grand Treasurer (2002-2010)**

We would like to thank all our Vasa friends who shared so much kindness and support to our family at the time of Dick's passing. Dick loved the Vasa Order and always worked hard for the Good of the Order. He never left home without wearing the Dala Horse pin, his way of advertis-

ing the Swedish lodge wherever he went. The love given to us was overwhelming, all the way from Sweden, Canada and the US. Thank you for the many memorials that were given in his memory. Your expressions of sympathy are gratefully appreciated.

ARCHIVES NEWS

VASA NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Våren och sommaren har anlänt med stormsteg, Valborgsmässoafton firades på Arkivets underbara baksida, med sång och korvgrillning. 20 studenter från Augustana College samt professorer hjälpte till med att sjunga Svenska Vår sånger, Sten Hult höll **VÅRTALET** och berättade om hans ungdoms valborg i Sverige, Våra underbara volontärer tog hand om utspisningen till ca 50 personer. Korv och chips som hade skänkts av (restaurangen) **The Fillingstation** i Bishop Hill. Tom Cleveland anlände tillsammans med sina barn och gavs oss den extra hjälp vi behövde, hans dotter fotograferade och hans son agerade ljusvakt när vindarna blev för starka, och våra ljus på borden blåstes ut.

Under April månad hade vi äran att få långväga besök från Karlstad och Sverige, Mathias Nilsson från **The Swedish American Center**, mötet resulterade i, att utöka vårt samarbete betydligt djupare, vilket kommer att främja länderna och kommande generationer.

Undertecknad hade glädjen att bli inbjuden till Lilly Setterdahls hem, för en presentation av hennes nyutkomna bok, **NOT MY TIME TO DIE** - Titanic and the Swedes on board, samt att även få mottaga en donation till Arkivet från **Moline Swedish Friendship Committee's**.

6 st vackra vin bägare skänktes till Arkivet från Trelleborg logen 734, gåvan till Arkivet ombesörjdes av Gunnar Mossberg. (Gunnar Mossberg är Arkivets **ANKARE** i Sverige)

Här följer några rader direkt från mitt hjärta och Arkivet! När man sitter och lyssnar på alla dessa kassetband av Lennart Setterdahl, och hans intervjuer med Svenska Emigranter, så korsas mina tankar om vilken enorm styrka och stolthet alla dess emigranter hade, dom lämnade allt och visste aldrig om eller när dom skulle se sina kära igen, dom visste heller inte vad som väntade dom, och informationen om det stora landet i Väster var förmodligen lite, för en del kanske det bara rykten från mun till mun, breven som skickades från och till Amerika tog lång tid. I dag går man in på internet och beställer sin biljett, tar telefonen och ringer sina kära på andra sidan av havet, eller skickar ett mail, eller prata med dom via skype då att man samtidigt kan se dom, man får nyheterna när dom fortfarande är nyheter eller tittar på en satellitkarta, om det är snö i Sverige. Tiderna ändras och utvecklingen går fort, avstånden blir kortare och kortare, informationsflödet snabbare och snabbare, ibland kan det kännas svårt att hinna med, därför är det av extra stor vikt att bevara information, traditioner och alster för kommande generationer!

Submitted by: Viktoria Kofoid-Almgren, Archivist

Spring and summer have arrived in leaps and bounds. **Valborgsmässoafton** was celebrated on the Archives wonderful back lawn with singing and barbecue. Twenty students from Augustana College along with professors helped in the singing of Swedish spring songs. **Sten Hult** gave our presentation and told of **Valborg** Nights during his youth in Sweden. Volunteers took charge of food distribution for about 50 guests. Hot dogs and chips were donated by the **Filling Station**, a local restaurant. Tom Cleveland arrived with his children and gave us much needed extra help. His daughter photographed the festivities and his son was "keeper of the lights." When the wind blew out the candles, he was in charge of relighting them.

During April we had the honor of a long distance visit from **Mathias Nilsson** from the Swedish American Center, Karlstad, Sweden. The meeting will result in a much deeper collaboration of available material between the Vasa and the Center.

The undersigned had the pleasure of being invited to **Lilly Setterdahl's** home for a presentation of her new book "**Not My Time To Die** - Titanic and the Swedes on board." I also received a donation to the Archives from the **Moline Swedish Friendship Committee**.

A beautiful set of six wine cups were donated to the Archives from Trelleborg Lodge #734. The donation was provided by Gunnar Mossberg. (Gunnar Mossberg Archives ANCHOR in Sweden).

Here are some thoughts directly from my heart and the Archives! When I listened to the tapes of Lennart Setterdahl and his interviews with the Swedish emigrants, it crossed my mind about the enormous strength and pride all these emigrants had. They left everything and never knew if or when they would see their loved ones again. They did not know what awaited them in the great country in the West. They only knew of what could have been rumors and word of mouth information. Letters that were sent from and to America took a long time. Today you can go on the Internet and order a plane ticket, take the phone and call your loved ones on the other side of the world or send an e-mail, talk to them on Skype so you can see them as well as talk to them. You can get news while it is still new. You can look at a satellite map and see if it is snowing in Sweden. Times change and development is fast. Distances are getting shorter and shorter. Information flows faster and faster. Sometimes it can feel difficult to find the time; therefore the importance of preserving information for future generations is greater than ever.

Submitted by: Viktoria Kofoid-Almgren, Archivist



GRAND LODGE NEWS

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT

Introduction

These reports are for Fiscal Year 2011, May 1, 2010 through April 30, 2011. The audit of these reports has not been completed, but I believe the reports to be accurate. Any adjustments required will be included in future reports.

The formats are different from past years and if you have questions, feel free to contact me by telephone or email.

(408) 268-7250 kthanlon@comcast.net

Investment Funds

The Old Age Benefit Fund is under the management of Bank of America Merrill Lynch. They send me quarterly portfolio reports that are available from me upon request. This portfolio is actively-managed and can change from month to month.

Wells Fargo Advisors manages the majority of the Education Fund. Recent donations have been held in the Wells Fargo checking account. I have carefully tracked these donations and repayments of Student Loans; the Grand Lodge has recently opened investment accounts for the Education Fund at the Vanguard Group. All permanently restricted and temporarily restricted funds are accounted for and will be deposited in separate investment and/or bank accounts.

Reporting and Recording

I provide General Fund Income and Expense reports and an OAB Fund Status Report to the Grand Lodge Executive Board monthly.

Beginning in January of 2011, I have entered all financial transactions of the Grand Lodge into the Quickbooks accounting software; this includes the last seven months of 2010.

We have submitted a request to the Internal Revenue Service to change our Fiscal Year to match the Calendar Year. If our request is granted, we will have one short Fiscal Year from May 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011.

Definition of Terms (Excerpts from "A resource article by Nonprofits Assistance Fund")

Managing Restricted Funds

Unique accounting standards require that nonprofit organizations report contributed income in one of three categories – unrestricted, temporarily restricted, or permanently restricted. These different income classifications are determined by either the absence or the existence of donor-imposed restrictions on the use of funds. It's helpful to start with the premise that, although restricted contributions and grants pose financial management challenges, these sources of funds for program and organizational support are important and desirable.

This resource article aims to define unrestricted, temporarily restricted, and permanently restricted income and give nonprofit leaders the tools to record, report, and effectively manage contributed income and net assets.

Unrestricted: These funds are free from any external restrictions and available for general use. Many individual contributions are unrestricted, as are general operating and unrestricted grants.

Temporarily Restricted: These funds have donor-imposed restrictions that can be fulfilled in one of two ways – passage of a defined period of time (time restriction) or by performing defined activities (purpose restriction). These funds most often come from a grant received to operate a specific program or project or individual contributions given with the intent of supporting a particular program or campaign.

Permanently Restricted: These funds are restricted by the donor for a designated purpose or time restriction that will never expire. The intent is that the principle balance of the contribution will remain as an investment forever, and the nonprofit will utilize the interest and investment returns, such as with an endowment.

In Generosity, Truth and Unity

*Keith Hanlon
Grand Treasurer*

Vasa Order of America Grand Lodge Statements of Financial Position (Balance Sheet) April 30, 2011

ASSETS

| | Investments at Book Value | Investments at Market Value 4/30/2011 |
|---|------------------------------|---|
| Current assets | | |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents | | |
| B of A OAB Checking | \$ 19,510 | \$ 19,510 |
| Wells Fargo Checking | \$ 178,673 | \$ 178,673 |
| Total Cash | \$ 198,184 | \$ 198,184 |
| Investments - Publicly traded securities | | |
| B of A, Merrill Lynch OAB Fund | \$ 4,565,125 | \$ 5,441,082 |
| Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC | \$ 103,362 | \$ 101,368 |
| Total - Publicly traded securities | \$ 4,668,487 | \$ 5,542,450 |
| Accounts Receivable (Student Loans) | \$ 18,827 | \$ 18,827 |
| Total current assets | \$ 4,885,498 | \$ 5,759,461 |
| LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS | | |
| Other liabilities | \$ - | \$ - |
| Net Assets | | |
| Unrestricted (General Fund) | \$ 130,926 | \$ 135,626 |
| Temporarily restricted | | |
| 2014 Convention Reserve | \$ 17,500 | \$ 17,500 |
| 2012 Scholarship | \$ 1,000 | \$ 1,000 |
| Total Temporarily Restricted | \$ 18,500 | \$ 18,500 |
| Permanently restricted | | |
| OAB Fund | \$ 4,584,635 | \$ 5,460,592 |
| Education Fund | \$ 154,721 | \$ 141,722 |
| Reimbursement Fund | \$ 3,021 | \$ 3,021 |
| Total Permanently Restricted | \$ 4,742,377 | \$ 5,605,335 |
| Total net assets | \$ 4,891,803 | \$ 5,759,461 |
| Total liabilities and net assets | \$ 4,891,803 | \$ 5,759,461 |

Vasa Order of America Grand Lodge Statements of Activities Fiscal Year 2011 May 1, 2010 to April 30, 2011

| | Permanently Restricted | Temporarily Restricted | Unrestricted | 2011 Totals |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| G and A Revenue | | | | |
| Assessments | | | \$ 162,761 | \$ 162,761 |
| Interest | | | \$ 19 | \$ 19 |
| Refunds | | | \$ 3,687 | \$ 3,687 |
| G and A Total Revenue | | | \$ 166,467 | \$ 166,467 |
| Program Revenue | | | | |
| Education Fund | | | | |
| Assessments | \$ 9,441 | | | \$ 9,441 |
| Scholarship Donations | \$ 3,875 | | | \$ 3,875 |
| Donations, Other | \$ 60 | | | \$ 60 |
| Donations, Stamps | \$ 40 | | | \$ 40 |
| Student Loan Repayments | \$ 8,111 | | | \$ 8,111 |
| Dividends and Interest | \$ 4,700 | | | \$ 4,700 |
| Education Fund Total | \$ 26,227 | | | \$ 26,227 |
| Member Recognition, Jewelry Sales | | | \$ 6,025 | \$ 6,025 |
| OAB Fund | | | | |
| Dividends and Interest | \$ 144,903 | | | \$ 144,903 |
| Realized Gains | \$ 156,835 | | | \$ 156,835 |
| Other Income | \$ 226 | | | \$ 226 |
| OAB Fund Total | \$ 301,964.15 | | | \$ 301,964 |
| Reimbursement Ins. Fnd. | \$ 1,824 | | | \$ 1,824 |
| Vasa National Archives | | \$ 14,521 | | \$ 14,521 |
| Vasa Star | | \$ 5,780 | | \$ 5,780 |
| Total Program Revenue | \$ 330,015 | \$ 14,521 | \$ 11,805 | \$ 356,341 |
| Total Revenue | \$ 330,015 | \$ 14,521 | \$ 178,272 | \$ 522,808 |
| Operating expenses | | | | |
| General and Administrative | | | | |
| Program services | | | | |
| Cultural Donations | | | \$ 2,989 | \$ 2,989 |
| Education Fund | \$ 1,942 | | | \$ 1,942 |
| Membership Programs | | | \$ 5,866 | \$ 5,866 |
| OAB Trust | | | | |
| Bank Fees | \$ 16,856 | | | \$ 16,856 |
| Member Benefits Paid | \$ 327,675 | | | \$ 327,675 |
| District Lodge Donations to VNA | \$ 24,495 | | | \$ 24,495 |
| OAB Trust Total | \$ 369,026 | | | \$ 369,026 |
| Scholarships (Larson) | \$ 6,000 | | | \$ 6,000 |
| Vasa Star | | | \$ 49,319 | \$ 49,319 |
| Vasa National Archives | | \$ 43,228 | | \$ 43,228 |
| Program Services Total | \$ 376,968 | \$ 43,228 | \$ 58,173 | \$ 478,370 |
| Total operating expenses | \$ 376,968 | \$ 43,228 | \$ 178,055 | \$ 598,252 |

Continued on page 5

GRAND LODGE VOA
Statement of Program Expenses
FY 2011
May 2010 through April 2011

| | <u>Expense</u> | <u>Totals</u> |
|--|----------------|-------------------|
| Programs | | |
| Cultural Programs | | |
| Donation, SA committee | \$ 1,500 | |
| Membership Fee | \$ 125 | |
| Vasa Nytt donation | \$ 1,000 | |
| Cultural Programs - Other | \$ 364 | |
| Total Cultural Programs | | \$ 2,989 |
| Education Fund | | |
| Childrens' Clubs Grants | | \$ 200 |
| Stamp Program | | \$ 1,742 |
| Jewelry Purchases for Member Recognition | | \$ 4,903 |
| Membership Promotions | | \$ 962 |
| OAB TRUST | | |
| Benefit Administration | | |
| District Lodge Donations to VNA | \$ 24,495 | |
| Member Benefit | \$ 328,575 | |
| Total Benefit Administration | \$ 352,170 | \$ 352,170 |
| Trustee Fees | \$ 16,856 | \$ 16,856 |
| Total OAB TRUST | | \$ 369,026 |
| Scholarship Fund | | |
| Larson Scholarship Award | | \$ 6,000 |
| Vasa National Archives Inc. | | |
| Per capita donation | \$ 42,953 | |
| VNA Memorials | \$ 275 | |
| Total Vasa National Archives Inc. | | \$ 43,228 |
| Vasa Star | | |
| Editor Exp. Reimb. | \$ 565 | |
| USA & Canada Publishing | \$ 30,545 | |
| VS, Sweden Publishing | \$ 11,693 | |
| VS Compensation | \$ 6,516 | |
| Total Vasa Star | | \$ 49,319 |
| Total Program Expenses | | \$ 478,370 |

GRAND LODGE VOA
Statement of Functional Expenses
General and Administrative FY 2011
May 2010 through April 2011

| | <u>Expense</u> | <u>Totals</u> |
|---|----------------|-------------------|
| General & Administrative | | |
| Bank Charge | \$ 1,354 | \$ 1,354 |
| Cancellation Charges | \$ 90 | \$ 90 |
| Compensation | \$ 12,050 | \$ 12,050 |
| Convention | | |
| Convention Exp. Reimb. | | |
| Audio-Video Eq. | \$ 4,167 | |
| Hotel | \$ 21,197 | |
| Travel & Per Diem | \$ 47,990 | |
| Total Convention | \$ 73,354 | \$ 73,354 |
| Debit returned items | \$ 550 | \$ 550 |
| Office Expense | | |
| Grand Secretary | \$ 4,352 | |
| Grand Treasurer | \$ 1,070 | |
| Historian | \$ 236 | |
| Vice GS | \$ 357 | |
| Depreciated Equipment | \$ 9,635 | |
| Other | \$ 7 | |
| Total Office Expense | \$ 15,657 | \$ 15,657 |
| Printing | \$ 181 | \$ 181 |
| Professional Services | | |
| Accounting Service | \$ 7,050 | |
| Attorney Fee | \$ 1,000 | |
| Total Professional Services | \$ 8,050 | \$ 8,050 |
| Records Microfilming, DL20 | \$ 369 | \$ 369 |
| Refunds | | |
| Assessment Overpayment | \$ 47 | \$ 47 |
| Storage Facility Rent | \$ 981 | \$ 981 |
| Time Share Fees | \$ 575 | \$ 575 |
| Travel Reimbursement | | |
| Grand Master | \$ 934 | |
| Travel Reimbursement - Other | \$ 2,500 | |
| Total Travel | \$ 3,434 | \$ 3,434 |
| Website | | |
| Domain Registration | \$ 25 | |
| Maintenance & Support | \$ 438 | |
| Webmaster Exp. Reimb. | \$ 2,727 | |
| Total Website | \$ 3,189 | \$ 3,189 |
| Total General & Administrative | | \$ 119,882 |

Keith Hanlon 2/10/2012

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT
FISCAL YEAR MAY 1, 2010 TO APRIL 30, 2011

| | #Mbrs +/- | Per Capita | Education | Archives | Year |
|-----------------------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------|
| DL Connecticut #1 | 270 - | \$ 3,577.50 | \$ 270.00 | \$ 405.00 | (2011) |
| DL Massachusetts #2 | 678 - | \$ 8,983.50 | \$ 678.00 | \$ 1,017.00 | (2011) |
| DL Rhode Island #3 | 332 - | \$ 4,399.00 | \$ 332.00 | \$ 498.00 | (2011) |
| DL New York #4 | 637 - | \$ 8,440.25 | \$ 637.00 | \$ 955.50 | (2011) |
| DL New Jersey #6 | 1,018 + | \$ 13,488.50 | \$ 1,018.00 | \$ 1,527.00 | (2011) |
| DL Minnesota #7 | 201 - | \$ 2,663.25 | \$ 201.00 | \$ 301.50 | (2011) |
| DL Lake Michigan #8 | 1,118 - | \$ 14,813.50 | \$ 1,118.00 | \$ 1,677.00 | (2011) |
| DL Pennsylvania #9 | 587 - | \$ 7,777.75 | \$ 587.00 | \$ 880.50 | (2011) |
| DL Superior #10 | 137 - | \$ 1,815.25 | \$ 137.00 | \$ 205.50 | (2011) |
| DL Rocky Mountain #11 | 77 - | \$ 1,020.25 | \$ 77.00 | \$ 115.50 | (2011) |
| DL Golden Gate #12 | 938 - | \$ 12,428.50 | \$ 938.00 | \$ 1,407.00 | (2011) |
| DL Pacific Northwest #13 | 949 - | \$ 12,574.25 | \$ 949.00 | \$ 1,423.50 | (2011) |
| DL Pacific Southwest #15 | 1,135 - | \$ 15,038.75 | \$ 1,135.00 | \$ 1,702.50 | (2011) |
| DL Iowa-Nebraska #17 | 95 - | \$ 1,258.75 | \$ 95.00 | \$ 142.50 | (2011) |
| DL Alberta #18 | 569 - | \$ 7,539.25 | \$ 569.00 | \$ 853.50 | (2011) |
| DL Norra Sverige #19 | 1,626 - | \$ 21,138.00 | | | (2011) |
| DL Södra Sverige #20 | 1,167 - | \$ 15,171.00 | | | (2011) |
| DL Arizona #21 | 321 - | \$ 4,253.25 | \$ 321.00 | \$ 481.50 | (2011) |
| LL Facklan #248 * | | | | | (2011) |
| LL Strindberg #259 ** | | | | | (2011) |
| LL Miami #554 | 93 - | \$ 1,232.25 | \$ 93.00 | \$ 139.50 | (2011) |
| LL Jubilee #692 | 29 - | \$ 384.25 | \$ 29.00 | \$ 43.50 | (2011) |
| LL Nordic #708 | 95 - | \$ 1,258.75 | \$ 95.00 | \$ 142.50 | (2011) |
| LL Carl XVI Gustav #716 | 53 - | \$ 702.25 | \$ 53.00 | \$ 79.50 | (2011) |
| LL Carl Larsson #739 | 87 + | \$ 1,152.75 | \$ 87.00 | \$ 130.50 | (2011) |
| LL Carl Widen #743 | 49 - | \$ 649.25 | \$ 49.00 | \$ 73.50 | (2011) |
| LL Travelers #758 | 32 - | \$ 416.00 | \$ 32.00 | \$ 48.00 | (2010) |
| LL Travelers #758 | 25 - | \$ 331.25 | \$ 25.00 | \$ 37.50 | (2011) |
| Individual Member (2 years) | 1 | \$ 13.25 | \$ 1.00 | \$ 1.50 | (2011) |

* No assessments received from LL Facklan #248 for 2011

**Assessments from LL Strindberg lost in mail, resubmitted and received after April 30, 2010 fiscal year close.

Student Loan Payments: Christopher Boyd \$1,125 (Paid in Full); Frederick Cullum \$3,750 (Paid in Full); Christian Ljunggren \$850 (Paid in Full); Jillian Ljunggren \$961; Abigail Sten \$375; Natalie Sten \$900

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|----------|
| GENERAL FUND | | |
| Per Capita Assessments | \$162,533.75 | |
| Sale of: Printed Matter | 169.75 | |
| Rituals, Constitutions, etc. | 490.00 | |
| Jewelry & Emblems | 5,012.82 | |
| Flags & Regalia | - | |
| Postage | 327.88 | |
| Misc. | 1,631.96 | |
| Total General Fund | \$170,166.16 | |
| Transfer In from OA&B Fund | 123,795.00 | |
| EDUCATION FUND | | |
| Assessments | 9,527.00 | |
| Stamp Donations | 50.00 | |
| Loan Repayments | 7,986.00 | |
| Memorials | 825.00 | |
| Scholarship | 3,225.00 | |
| Miscellaneous | 0.00 | |
| Total Education Fund | 21,613.00 | |
| REIMBURSEMENT FUND | 1,855.00 | 1,855.00 |

| | | |
|---|--------------|------|
| OLD AGE & BENEFIT FUND | | |
| Assessment | 8.00 | 8.00 |
| ARCHIVES FUND | | |
| Assessments | 14,290.50 | |
| Miscellaneous | 275.00 | |
| Total Archives Fund | 14,565.50 | |
| VASA STAR FUND | | |
| Advertisements | 4,944.50 | |
| Obituaries | 781.00 | |
| Subscriptions | 60.00 | |
| Mail Fee/Postage | 54.56 | |
| Miscellaneous | (12.01) | |
| Total Vasa Star Fund | 5,828.05 | |
| GRAND TOTAL RECEIPTS | \$337,830.71 | |
| Deposited - Wells Fargo Bank, Minneapolis, MN | | |
| Deposit numbers 1 through 22 | | |
| Joan Lindquist Graham Grand Secretary | | |

Highlights of the Grand Lodge Executive Board Meeting

September 12-14, 2011

The Grand Lodge Board met in Portland Oregon following the District Lodge Pacific Northwest No. 13 Convention. Here are highlights of the meeting:

1. An opening on the Vasa National **Archives Board** occurred with the resignation of Lennart Petersson. Several names were recommended by the Archives Board. The GL Board elected Helen Haumacher of New Jersey District No. 6 to fill the vacant position on the Archives Board.
2. The Web committee gave a detailed report on their progress setting up the **members-only web page** on the Vasa web site. Access will be available only by password. Local and district lodges will be able to keep detailed records of their members on this restricted web page. The plan is to have this up and available before the next Grand Lodge Convention (2014.) The GL Executive Board will be testing a beta version of this members-only web page.
3. The **Order Form for Vasa jewelry and supplies** has been reviewed by the Executive Board and some of the prices have been lowered. The new form is available by email, or by regular mail from VGS Gail Olson or from GS Joanie Graham. Orders for jewelry and supplies should be sent to Gail and must come only from the lodge secretary or chairman. Orders by email are acceptable.
4. If you order **pins recognizing years-of-membership**, you may notice a change. A new supplier has been found and we will gradually replace our smaller pins as the current supply is depleted. These new pins are a bit larger and easier to read.
5. **New program ideas** for lodges were discussed and will be developed, such as a new Archives tour on CD, new A/V items; video programs from successful lodges, video presentations about Sjölund, etc.
6. A new Column in The Vasa Star will print **"Letters to the Editor."** Another new column – **Q&A** will answer any question about Vasa or the Grand Lodge that members may have.
7. Grand Treasurer Keith Hanlon requested and received approval from the IRS to **change the Grand Lodge's fiscal year** from May 1/April 30 to the calendar year. This matches the reporting year of the district and local lodges and will be more convenient for all concerned.
8. A change in the process for **nominating and electing district officers** at district conventions was approved at the Grand Lodge Convention in 2010 in Washington,

D.C. Grand Lodge Deputies, District Masters, and District Secretaries will receive a letter reminding them of this change and the need to prepare carefully in advance so the process will run smoothly.

9. The **Constitution for Grand Lodge, District Lodge and Local Lodge** has been put on the Vasa web site (www.vasaorder.com) and is available for printing. Or, you may email Joanie Graham (vasajlg@aol.com) and she will send it to you as an attachment. When funds are available, the updated pages will be printed for the Vasa Handbook.
10. District Lodge Lake Michigan No. 8 has established a **new Grand Lodge Scholarship** with a donation of \$20,000 [intended for a student planning or already enrolled on a full-time equivalent basis. Applicant must be a Vasa member in good standing or a child or grandchild of a Vasa member in good standing in the United States, Canada or Sweden with at least two years of membership prior to application deadline. The amount awarded will be decided by the Grand Lodge Executive Board in relation to funding available.] An additional amount was donated recently. One \$1000 scholarship will be available now, and future scholarships will be available when funding is available.
11. **Extra copies of The Vasa Star** will be available for \$5.00. Contact GS Joanie Graham if you need extra copies.
12. **Quarterly GL Financial Reports** will be available from GT Keith Hanlon and will be sent to the Districts, c/o the District Secretary.
13. The **Circulation Manager tasks** have been returned to the Grand Secretary. All address changes and New Member slips (bottom of the Membership Applications) should be sent to Joanie Graham.
14. Many **lodges and districts are setting up web pages** independent of the Vasa web site. The Grand Lodge asks them to coordinate and link their web sites with the Vasa webmaster (webmaster@vasaorder.com) so that visitors will have access in both directions. There is a template to set up a lodge web site within the Vasa web site, see www.vasaorder.net.
15. Several Vasa sites have been set up on **Facebook**. Search for Vasa to find the various GL, Districts and local sites.

Submitted by: Joanie Graham, Grand Secretary

CULTURE

In The Beginning of 2012 Thinking Forward and Back

A shift of year brings always thoughts on the past, the present and the future. No difference this time and in the field of culture there are several things to consider. I will return to that later, but first of all we have to deal with issues of general interest. So far Sweden has not been involved in anything belonging to the financial crisis in Europe from last year, but some anxiety exists. At the moment the Swedish people trust the current government. Planning for other things go on. One such thing that will be remembered several times throughout the year is the 100 year anniversary of the birth of Raoul Wallenberg, one of the most famous Swedes ever. Another 100 year memory to observe is the Olympics of 1912 in Stockholm ("the sunshine Olympics"), the only Olympic games with Sweden in charge. The same year August Strindberg, great author and dramatist, passed away.

One big event has already taken place: the birth of a **new Princess** on February 23. Crown Princess Victoria and her husband, Prince Daniel, could welcome their first child that has gotten the name **Estelle**. She will immediately get in line for the Swedish Crown, second only to her mother. Everything was OK and all people wish good luck.

An upcoming event of Swedish interest is the European championship in soccer (to be Arranged in Poland and Ukraine this summer). Sweden qualified for the tournament in 2011.

Preparations for the upcoming events started already in 2011 by reserving money for the accomplishment of the anniversaries. The responsibility is shared between the Government and the city of Stockholm and that is true for the Olympic jubilee as well as for August Strindberg, who was born in the capital

and spent most of his life there. So far much more money is promised to the Olympics compared to the Strindberg events which has aroused critic from the cultural establishment that also points out the bad financial support for the Wallenberg project. The final outcome, though, may be much better for all the projects by addition of sponsors.

The author and dramatist August Strindberg belongs to the group of great authors of the world (as Graham Greene and others) not having been awarded the Nobel Prize in spite of the highest qualifications. He is since many years, already in his life time, recognized far beyond the borders of Sweden and Strindberg societies have been formed in several countries, also in the US (Los Angeles and others). American scholars have now started a website, www.strindbergfestival.com and a symposium is planned at Harvard.

To get an overall information on what's going to happen in Sweden as well as in other countries, please go to www.strindberg2012.se belonging to Department of Culture.

My purpose is to give this general information and come back in the next issue with an article about Strindberg. For those Vasa members with an interest in Strindberg I wish to remind on the fact that we within our Order have one local lodge named after the author: LL Strindberg Lodge #259 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

At last we may consider that 2012 is a leap-year with space for various interpretations.

In Truth and Unity
Stig S. Salgeback, GLCD
stig.salgeback@telia.com

I Början av 2012 Tankar framåt och bakåt

Varje årsskifte medför tankar på det förflutna, det närvarande och framtiden. Ingen skillnad denna gång och på det kulturella området finns det åtskilligt att fundera över. Jag kommer att återvända till det senare, men först finns det anledning att kommentera ämnen av allmänt intresse. Än så länge har Sverige inte berörts av någonting tillhörande den finansiella krisen i Europa, men viss ångslan finns. Just nu litat svenskarna på sin nuvarande regering. Planering för andra saker pågår. En sådan, som kommer att upprepas åtskilliga gånger under året, är ihågkommandet av Raoul Wallenberg, som föddes för 100 år sedan. Han är en av de mest berömda svenskarna genom alla tider. Ett annat 100-årsminne att komma ihåg är Stockholmsolympiaden 1912 ("solsken-olympiaden"), de enda olympiska spel som Sverige ansvarat för. Året för olympiaden blev också dödsåret för August Strindberg, den store författaren och dramatikern.

En stor händelse har redan ägt rum: **en prinsessa är född** den 23 februari. Kronprinsessan Victoria och hennes man, Prins Daniel, kunde denna dag välkomna det första barnet, som fått namnet **Estelle**. Den nyfödda prinsessan blir automatiskt tronarvinge med bara sin mor före i ordningen. Allt gick bra och alla önskar lycka till.

En förestående händelse med svenskt intresse är europamästerskapet i fotboll, som kommer att arrangeras i Polen och Ukraina under sommaren. Fotbollsturneringens finalspel kvalificerade Sverige sig för under 2011.

Förberedelserna för de kommande jubileerna startade redan förra året genom reservation av pengar för genomförandet. Ansvarat delas mellan regeringen och Stockholm stad och det gäller för såväl minnet av olympiska spelen som för August Strindberg, som föddes i Stockholm och som tillbringade större

delen av sitt liv där. Vid nuvarande tidpunkt (början av januari) har betydligt mer pengar anslagits för olympiaminnet jämfört med Strindberg, vilket har utlöst kritik från det kulturella etablissemanget, som också framhållit den undermåliga finansieringen av Wallenbergprojektet. Det slutliga resultatet är dock ännu inte klart, då sponsorer kan komma in i bilden.

Författaren och dramatikern August Strindberg tillhör den exklusiva grupp av stora litteratörer i världen (liksom Graham Greene och andra), som inte tilldelats Nobelpriset trots de högsta kvalifikationer. Han har ju i många år, och redan under sin livstid, erkänts bortom Sveriges gränser och Strindberg-sällskap har bildats i åtskilliga länder, också i USA (Los Angeles m.fl.). Amerikanska akademiker har nu startat en hemsida, www.strindbergfestival.com, och ett symposium planeras vid Harvard.

För att finna översiktlig information om vad som kommer att hända i Sverige och övriga länder är det lämpligt att besöka hemsidan www.strindberg2012.se tillhörande kulturdepartementet.

Mitt syfte nu är ge denna allmänna information för att återkomma i nästa nummer med en artikel om August Strindberg. För Vasamedlemmar med intresse för Strindberg önskar jag påminna om att vi inom vår orden har en lokallogge uppkallad efter författaren: LL Strindberg Lodge #259 i Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

Till slut må vi betänka, att 2012 är ett skottår med utrymme för spekulationer!

I Sanning och Enighet
Stig Sälgeback
SLKL Sverige
stig.salgeback@telia.com

BASIC SWEDISH COURSE

Lesson One: Vad är det? (What is it/this/that?)

Vocabulary

det - it, this, that
är - is, are (infinitive form: vara)
ett äpple/-t - an apple
en elev/-en - a pupil
läser – reads (infinitive form:läsa)
ett brev/-et - a letter
vem – who
har - has, have (infinitive form: ha)
en bok/-en - a book
en kvinna/-n - a woman
ett bord/-et - a table
en pojke/-en - a boy
en flicka/-n - a girl
en man/-nen, en make/-n - a man, a husband
här - here
den/det här, detta – this
vad - what
var - where

Examples

Det är ett äpple. It is an apple
Eleven läser ett brev The pupil reads a letter
Vem har en bok? Who has a book?
Här är kvinnan Here is the woman

Grammar

Gender

Swedish nouns and adjectives are declined in two genders and two cases, as well as number. The two cases are *nominative* and *genitive*. Nominative is the dictionary form, while the genitive suffix is *-s*, identical to that of English. Swedish nouns belong to one of two genders: *uter* (also 'common gender')—so called 'en'-words—, or *neuter*, 'ett'-words. The majority of Swedish words are 'en'-words.

Indefinite and Definite Articles

En and **ett** are the indefinite articles in Swedish, equivalent to the English 'a.' The indefinite article precedes the noun like in English.

The definite article is suffixed to the noun. 'En'-words take the suffix **-en**, and 'ett'-words take the suffix **-et**. If a noun ends in a vowel, it takes **-n** or **-t**.

| | | | |
|------------------|----------|---------------|-----------|
| <i>en bok</i> | a book | <i>boken</i> | the book |
| <i>en pojke</i> | a boy | <i>pojken</i> | the boy |
| <i>ett bord</i> | a table | <i>bordet</i> | the table |
| <i>ett äpple</i> | an apple | <i>äpplet</i> | the apple |

Verb forms

While English has different verb forms for first, second and third persons (I work, he/she works, they work), Swedish has just one form (*jag arbetar, han/hon arbetar, de arbetar.*). In the present tense, verbs end (with only a handful exceptions) in **-r**, **-ar**, or **-er**.

Examples:

Vem är pojken? Who is the boy?
Flickan har en bok. The girl has a book.
Vad är det här? Det är ett äpple. What is this? It is an apple.
Mannen läser brevet. The man reads the letter.

Exercises

Translate the following sentences into English: Answers:
1. Flickan är här. 10. vem är eleven?
2. Vem har boken? 9. eleven är en pojke.
3. Vad är det här? 8. karin har en bok.
4. Sven* har ett äpple. *a boy's name 7. det är ett bord.
5. Kvinnan har en make. 6. vad är det här?

Translate the following sentences into Swedish: 5. the woman has a husband.
6. What is this? 4. sven has an apple.
7. It is a table. 3. what is this?
8. Karin* has a book. *a girl's name 2. who has the book?
9. The boy is a pupil. 1. the girl is here.
10. Who is the pupil?

Here are a few more excerpts from the book "Du vet att du är svensk"...

("You know that you are Swedish...") Read them and see how Swedish you are!

Du vet att du är svensk (när du)...You know that you are Swedish (when you)...

Blir tyst så snart någon häller upp vin

Fall silent as soon as someone pours the wine

Blir imponerad av folk som kan knyta en fluga

Are impressed by people who can knot a bowtie

Grillar även när regnet star som spön I backen

Grill even when the rain is pouring down

Blir glad för att någon gratulerar dig på din namnsdag

Are pleased when someone congratulates you on your name day

Besvarar "tack" med att säga "tack"

Respond to a "thank you" by saying "thank you"

Inte vågar ta sista kakan på kakfatet

Don't dare to take the last cookie in the cookie dish

New Swedish Words

In the last issue we presented several old words, which are rarely used today.

Here are some very new Swedish words with explanations in English:

Blingbling: Glittriga och pråliga smycken som ska visa att man är rik.

- Sparkling and gaudy jewelry to show that you are rich.

Bratti: Snobbig, överklassig (från eng. Brat).

-Snobbish, upper class (from Eng. Brat).

Curlingförälder: Förälder som gör allt för att sopa bort alla hinder och svårigheter för sitt barn, precis som en curling-spelare ivrigt sopar isen för att curling-stenen skall glida fram lättare

-A parent who does everything

In order to sweep away all

obstacles and difficulties for its

child Just like a Curling player

eagerly sweeps the ice so the

Curling stone will glide easier.

Servicebarn: Barn som får all service från sina curlingföräldrar.

-Children who are totally serviced by their Curling parents.

Fashionista: Mycket modemedveten person.

-A very fashion conscious person

Hjärtstartare: Defibrillator, apparat som återför onormal hjärtrytm till normal.

-Defibrillator, a device that brings abnormal heart rhythm back to normal.

Solduscha: Ett sätt att få konstgjord solbränna genom att låta sig duschas av en brun-utan-sol-lotion under starkt tryck.

-Take a Sun Shower: A method to obtain an artificial suntan by showering yourself with a self-tanning lotion under great pressure.

In the next issue I will include some simple every-day phrases that may be useful when practicing conversation at local lodge meetings and events. This has been suggested to me by some members and I am happy to comply.

Your comments and suggestions are welcome!

Siv Swan-Pierson,
Grand Lodge Language Director
www.Vasaorder.com
VasaSvenska@Verizon.net

A FAVORITE RECIPE

The delicious Smorgastorte is a wonderful addition to your Swedish Smorgasbord. Norden Lodge #684 Cultural Leader, Monica Shipley brings her famous Smorgastorte to Valborgsmassaafon held in May each year. It's as wonderful to look at as it is to eat.

Monica's Swedish Smorgastorte

White & wheat bread (square sandwich type), amount depends on number of people to be served. Cut crusts from bread, arrange on rectangular platter.

Begin by laying white bread (recipe uses 4 slices for each layer) flat on platter with edges touching, spread with margarine (important, this prevents bread from becoming soggy).

1st layer: Mix chopped smoked ham with about 2 1/2 tab mayo & 1 tab sour cream. You need enough to just hold the ham together. Spread on bread.

2nd layer: Use wheat bread next, spread with margarine on both sides. Mix chopped hard boiled eggs with about 2 1/2 tab mayo & 1 tab sour cream. Spread on bread. Sprinkle with fresh or dried dill.

3rd layer: Use white bread next, spread with margarine on both sides. Cover bread with shredded lettuce, top with baby shrimp. Cover with wheat bread, but only spread margarine on bread that faces down over shrimp.

Frosting: Mix together, mayo & sour cream (3 to 1). Make enough to cover top and sides of torte. Press shredded lettuce on sides. Decorate top with thin slices of cucumber, hard boiled eggs, radishes, shrimp & grape tomatoes cut in half. Overlap veggies as you go making rows the length of the torte.

Refrigerate 24 hours. Enjoy!!!!

Rättvik man's complete costume, including vest, long coat and church hat. Tailored in Rättvik 1986. Shirt/vest large, pants 37" waist.

Photos available. \$250 or reasonable offer. Keith Booman kthbooman@gmail.com

DISTRICT LODGE NEWS

DL Pacific Southwest No. 15



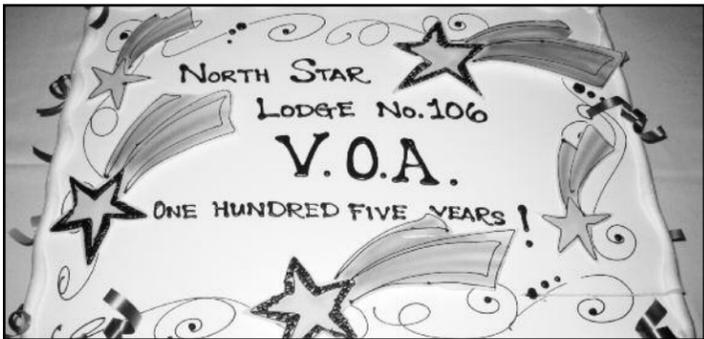
Front Row (L-R): Gunilla Wotkyns, Arlene Lundquist, Susan Premo, Gunlog Spaberg, Grand Master Bill Lundquist, Ann Hellgren, Isabella Muscarella, Nel Solt, Bob Solt. Back Row (L-R): Anita Hedlund, Delphine Trowbridge, Ann Heinstedt, Siv Swan-Pierson, Russell Almquist, Robert Salk, Lon Kirkgaard, Mary Wright, Nathan Coddling, Inga Frances, Mary Ethel Pierson, Elliott Coddling.

Installation of the new officers followed and then coffee and sweets to keep our tummies contented on the way home. In our minds and hearts we are happy for a weekend of great friendship and lots of fun. I am already looking forward to next year!

Submitted by Nel Solt, Press Representative
Photo: Tom Jahn

LODGE NEWS

North Star Lodge #106 Los Angeles, CA



With the motto "STILL ALIVE AT 105" North Star Lodge #106 celebrated its 105th Birthday January 15, 2012 at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Westside-Los Angeles. Evelyn Earls, our over 76 year long member had the idea we should have a party while we were still "hanging in there", and that we did.

Following welcome by CH Erik Lindberg and invocation by Chaplain Nel Solt, a delicious luncheon was served. After the luncheon a beautiful decorated cake was cut and we tipped our glasses for a big SKÅL and "Ja Må Hon Leva." Congratulatory messages were read, followed by remarks from Thomas Jahn, GLD and Susan Premo, DM.

Membership jewels were presented to Elinore Thornton 70 years, Clarence Bergquist 67 years, Roy Silver 67 years, and Johnny Quist 65 years. Evelyn Earls read our history, then and now, with lots of beautiful memories! A video prepared by CH Erik showed pictures from past occasions – it was so enjoyable to see.

Scholarships were presented to Heather Coddling, Elliott Coddling, Tracy Gonzales, Jennifer Larson and Austin Succa.

A special entertainment by talented members; Marita Pall, Anita Bergsten, Charles Pages and Sharon Pages presented a clever skit about a lonely Swedish immigrant (portrayed by Charles in pantomime!) who wrote a letter home to his sweetheart and, when she came and joined him, they happily danced around!

Before we parted, everyone sang the nostalgic song "Hälsa dem Därhemma" – a truly wonderful event.

Submitted by: Elinore Thornton

Fylgia Lodge #119, Svea #348, Lindbergh #494 Tri-Lodge Installation Golden Gate District #12



District Master Victoria Fedor-Thurman discusses details before the ceremony with Vice Grand Master Tore Kellgren.

January 20, 2012, was a chilly night, but members of three Vasa lodges found warmth, good food, and rich tradition within the walls of the Odd Fellows Hall in San Jose, California. It was time to install new officers for the 2012 term.

Svea Lodge #348, Lindbergh Lodge #494, and Fylgia Lodge #119 came together for this time-honored tradition steeped in ritual dating back more than a century. Masters of Ceremonies escorted past and future officers to the podium to be adorned

with regalia appropriate to their office. District Master Victoria Fedor-Thurman officiated at the event, and Vice District Master Dave Jansson paid close attention, as he will be assuming District Master duties from her in a few months, probably conducting installation ceremonies himself throughout the district next year.

After the ceremony, everyone adjourned to the hall for a delicious dinner of lasagna.

Submitted by: Ann Marie Richardson, Vasa Star Correspondent

Thule Lodge #127 Jamestown/ Bemus Point, NY

Plans have been made to prepare our lodge for the upcoming activities, and the opening event was the April 15th pancake breakfast at the lodge. The month of May brought our fish dinner night, and later in May, our annual famous Swedish meatball dinner. The events bring a gathering of people for fellowship and good times. Our regular meeting in April brought the egg sexa with a large table of many kinds of food for everyone to enjoy. Our meetings continued to be held on a Saturday afternoon until the June meeting, and then changed to the fourth Thursday evening. Chairman Ralph Veights welcomes all, and our cultural leader Fanchon Fuller gives an update on future events and includes a history lesson of a Swedish custom.

The annual installation of officers for 2012 was held in February, with the ceremony being led by PC and PDM Edwin Sandberg.

We are looking forward to the annual Scandinavian Festival in the middle of July to be held at the Rodeo grounds in Gerry, NY. This is a well attended event, featuring music,



Thule Lodge #127 officers for the year 2012 are, front row, from the left: Robert Fuller, trustee, Fanchon Fuller, cultural leader, Donna Sandberg, financial secretary, Jeffrey Anderson, vice chairman, Donna Johnson, mistress of ceremony, and Nels John Nelson, outer guardsman. Back row are: Tim Miller, auditor, Edwin Sandberg, immediate past chairman, Diane Shaw, chaplain, Carolyn Ostrom, secretary, Ralph Veights, lodge chairman, Bernice Veights, assistant mistress of ceremony, Wayne Nelson, auditor, Loretta Smith, treasurer, Don Carlson, inner guardsman, and John Sipos, lodge historian.

dancing, food, crafts, Swedish language lessons, vendors, and activities for all age groups. This year's dates are July 20-22. All are welcome. It is a time to remember, and a good time will be had by all.

Thule Lodge is located at

Nobel-Monitor Lodge #130 Cleveland, OH



Bruce Elfvin DM, Rolf Bergman PGM, Dick Erickson LLC, and Bo Carlson LLVC.

Nobel-Monitor Lodge #130 in Cleveland held their Annual Kaffe Stuga on April 1, 2012. The one food item the members look forward to are the hot waffles, fresh off the grill. This year we had four waffle makers: Bruce Elfvin, Rolf Bergman, PGM, DM, Dick Erickson, LLC, and Bo Carlson, LLVC. Where else could you ever find such officers 'serving' their members? Besides the waffles and dessert table, there was a Bake Sale, a 'Butik' of many Swedish items, and for the first time, lingonberry

plants to purchase. Needless to say, the day was a success.

The Vasa Voices gave their Spring Concert on June 10th. Before that concert, the Vasa Voices sang on May 5th for the Danish Sisterhood District convention being held in Cleveland this year! We are learning the Danish National Anthem and one other Danish song.

Some members of the Vasa Voices will be traveling to New Haven in June to attend the American Union of Swedish Singers (AUSS) national convention.

Tegnér Lodge #149

Oakland, CA

The members of Tegnér Lodge #149, Oakland, CA, started the first meeting of 2012 with a potluck supper. Elsy Mattsson, Ingrid Andersson, and Diane Eatherly made delicious pancakes for all. The program was a sing-a-long/karaoke songfest led by Brad Gilbertson, son of 25-year member Rhoda Gilbertson. Old time favorites were featured. Rhoda joined her son to give us a wonderful parody of "Let Me Call You Sweetheart." Kathryn Hughes and Richard Orlando performed a duet, and Diane Maynard showed us that she knew the hula movements for "Tiny Bubbles." Hälsa dem där hemma" was sung twice. All the members enjoyed the program very much.

In February, Elsy Mattsson prepared semlor for dessert after our kåldolmar dinner. She also told the history of Swedes eating semlor before Lent. A short business meeting was held.

Charlotte Weissenborn prepared delicious salmon and boiled potatoes for our March



Rhoda Gilbertson and son Brad Gilbertson.

meeting. Dessert included a delicious cake made by Mary Ann Nichelini, and Carol Madigan brought shamrock cookies. Kathryn Hughes told us about Easter and spring customs in Sweden and Richard Orlando showed interesting pictures. Kathryn and Richard also brought branches which we helped decorate with colored feathers.

Submitted by: Ann Tennis

Astor Lodge #215

Astoria, WA



John Nordgren, 94, wears a child's hat made by Frida Lofgren, mother of Bob Lofgren and Darlene Neilson. Four hats were donated to Astor Lodge from the Lofgren family.

Astor Lodge #215 is 100 years old!

The celebration was held February 26, 2013, in Astoria. Members, visiting dignitaries and friends joined in the party. Visitors from six local lodges attended.

A display of photos and articles featured early lodge accomplishments. Memorabilia included a vest worn by Arvid Jacobson, a past District officer, an award given to Betty Cunningham for recruiting 19

new members. Copies of the Cumtux magazine, printed by the local historical society highlighting the history of Astor Lodge, were available. Featured in the publication were three charter members, Charles F. Sjosten, Gust "Ragnar" Swanson, and Ragnar Hoyer. Maureen Sundstrom researched information and collected family photographs for the article. Terry Arnall used the Vasa Star (Jan/Feb 2010) to introduce an article honoring the Ladies Sewing Club of Astor Lodge. Gerry Swenson, Lodge chairman was MC introducing guests. Gerry also narrated a power point presentation created by Anne Stark, cultural chairman, from materials in the Lodge scrapbook collection.

Members Bob Lofgren, Darlene Neilson, and Carl Jacobson were honored with 50-year pins.

Swedish costumes were proudly worn at almost every table. Several young members attending had represented Astor Lodge at the local Scandinavian Summer festival as court members. Also attending were members who had received Lodge scholarships.

Celebration cake was enjoyed by all! **Ja, må det leva!**

Brahe Lodge #245

Rockford, IL



Nineteen members of Vasa Brahe Lodge #245 met in our Vasa Park Lodge in Rockford Illinois on a beautiful spring day, March 25, 2012, for a delicious smörgåsbord!. Our mild winter is over and how nice it was to chat with old friends!

During our business meeting we discussed forthcoming pancake and herring breakfasts which will be open to the public and hopefully future members later in the spring in our Vasa Park Lodge.

Submitted by: D. G. Eksten, Vasa Brahe #245 Lodge member

Svea Lodge #253

Indianapolis, IN



Svea 253 continues activities between our monthly meetings. Three of our monthly "clubs" have recently been chartered as Activities Clubs by the Grand Lodge: The Swedish Language Class, The Scandinavian Film Club, and The Tuesday Swedish Luncheon Group. We are so grateful to the Grand Lodge for the recognition granted to these groups.

Our January program was presented by Ole Vesterqvist, husband of Lodge member Eija, herself very active with our youth activities. Vesterqvist is a scientist engaged in testing new drugs and spent ten years at the prestigious Karlinska Institute, largely researching the effects of aspirin (yes, aspirin.) Just think of it, Ole Vesterqvist may have had an influence on some medications you take. He is also a very good accordionist!

Sweden is a veritable museum of historical architecture. This was made apparent in our February program, titled A Review of Swedish Architecture: Historical, Modern, and Vernacular by David Young, architect and husband of Lodge member Karin. Slide photographs did most of the "talk-

ing," including a Viking ship (Oslo) dated to the 7th century, two "stave" wooden-built churches from c. the 12th century, and scenes from the "gamla Stua" or "old city" of Stockholm. Other highlights included the Royal Palace, other palaces and castles, Stockholm's city hall (venue of the Nobel Prize banquet), and many scenes of Stockholm.

March's program was given over to a highly developed form of woodworking called Tina (tee-nah) Box Making, wherein the wood is planed, soaked, and bent into the desired shapes. Tina boxes are made in various sizes and are very versatile in usage; they can be school children's lunch or book boxes. Carpenters use them for tools. Rosemaling makes them into art objects. Jim Swanson has long been a master wood worker and has taken up the Tina technique in the past few years (see photo). This was fun.

Svea Lodge 253 is doing very well. Douglas Krantz was welcomed into the Lodge in February and there are others on the horizon.

Submitted by: Wesley L. Hanson

Svea Lodge #296

Erie, PA



Harry Johnson and Tom Johnson (no relation) enjoy Carl Larsson's art.

At our last lodge meeting we were treated to an afternoon of Art. The Jamestown NY Community College lent us over twenty beautiful framed prints from their permanent collection of work of famed Swedish artist CARL LARSSON. Linda Collin, art teach, who is a lodge member, presented a biographical talk about his life and work. Though the paintings reveal his colorful home and seven delightful children, his early life was one of

extreme poverty, and his later years were quite difficult due to rejection of his work. There was an opportunity to buy unframed prints to start one's own collection.

Continuing the program, our charter was draped due to the untimely death of four of our members.

After the meeting was adjourned we savoured the favorite soups provided by members for refreshment.

Submitted by: Linda Collin

Omaha Lodge #330

Omaha, NE

Officers for Omaha Lodge #330 for 2012 are Chairman – Les J. Marks, Vice-Chairman – Mitt Grimes, Recording Secretary – Anna Carlson, Financial Secretary – Anna Carlson, Treasurer – Gullvi Henriksson, Cultural Leader – June Soderlund, Historian – Les J. Marks (also District #17 Historian), Chaplain – Ida Ehlers, Mistress of Ceremonies – Betty Peterson, Inner Guard – Gullvi Henriksson, Outer Guard – Beth Rosenquist (also GL Deputy to District #17), Past Chairman – Carol Smith.

Grand Master Bill Lundquist is coming to Omaha Lodge #330 in April. He is bringing mem-

bership information as the lodge has lost members by death, nursing homes, and lack of interest. Chairman Les J. Marks is going to the District #8 Lake Michigan Convention in May. He will get information on getting new members and retaining members in Omaha Lodge as the building is being sold because of the high cost of expenses, lack of members and rentals.

In October 2015 the Omaha Lodge #330 will celebrate 100 years, 1915-2015. Members must get new members to keep the lodge going to 2015.

Submitted by: Les J. Marks, Omaha Lodge #330, Chairman

Solidaritet Lodge #396

Mount Vernon, WA



The "VASA Belles"

Our 2012 activities started out with our "take-the-tree-down" party while listening to lively music, prompting the dancers among us to take a "dance break" instead of a rest break.

Our monthly pancake breakfast always draws 300 - 400 people; lots of work for the many members who prepare it, but rewarding because it is our lodge's primary fund raiser.

Another popular public event is our monthly Scandinavian dance. It alternates between live-and cd-music. For the live music dances we get dance enthusiasts attending from as far as Seattle (60 miles) and Vancouver B.C. (70 miles).

Our monthly business meetings are always followed by a potluck social and cultural program. In February we had a wonderful program on Swedish glass, presented by Ron and Wike White who showed photos from their recent visit to Sweden's Kingdom of Glass in the province of Småland. Ron and Wike talked about the history of the area and of the three most famous glass works there, Orrefors, Kosta and Boda.

In March we invited members from three nearby Norwegian lodges to join us for dinner, with entertainment provided by accordionist Einar Tapio.

The "VASA Belles" - are a group of female members who meet monthly for lunch and discuss their hobbies, vacation trips (and perhaps a new grand- or great-grand child).

Submitted by: Willy Evans

*When you wish
To Honor a
Member's Anniversary
or
Make a
Memorial Donation
Remember the
Education Fund
and the
Vasa Archives*

Frihet Lodge #401

Seattle, WA



Frihet Lodge #401 celebrated their 90th year in October 2011 at Ivar's Salmon House on Lake

Union in Seattle. The sun does shine on the Swedes!

Norden Lodge #684

Fresno, CA



Sitting: Marci, Ulla, Mary, Helen, Fran. Standing: Monica, Carole, Judy, Mike, George, Ed.

Norden Lodge members started the new year with plenty of energy and enthusiasm. We installed new officers: Chairman George Sell, Vice Chairman Mikael Peterson, Secretary Corky Peterson, Assistant Secretary Judy Harless, Treasurer Ed Rice, Financial Secretary Fran Johnson, Cultural Leader Monica Shipley, Chaplain Mary Morton, Master of Ceremonies Helen Fosdick, Assistant Master of Ceremonies Phil Benson, Inner Guard Ulla Thornton, Outer Guard Marci Johansson, and Historian Carole Sell. We also planned a host of fun and interesting projects and programs for 2012.

In January we had a lively celebration of Julgransplundring to bring the Christmas holidays to a close, and in February we enjoyed traditional pea soup and pancakes. In March, we learned about the arrival of the newest member of the Swedish royal family, Crown Princess's new daughter Estelle Silvia Ewa Mary. Remembering our Swedish heritage from .

Submitted by: **Judy Harless**

Nordik Folk Lodge #761

Munster, IN

(Possibly the youngest Chair in the Vasa Order)

Sunday, February 26th was a landmark day for Nordik Folk Lodge No. 761. The lodge has existed since January 2006, and this year, Michael Pearson Jr. was installed as the new Chairman. This is an exciting and unique situation in the Vasa Order, where most of the Chairmen are the elders of the lodge. Nordik Folk's new Chairman is twenty-two years

old! He is a charter member of the lodge and he has been involved in Vasa since he joined Nordikids Children's Club in January of 2002, at the age of 11.

For the past two years, Michael has served as Vice Chairman. He still performs with Nordikids when they have performances, when he can, Michael has been fortunate to attend near his home and this has enabled him to maintain his close ties to our lodge and Children's



Steve Westlund, Past Chairman and Michael Pearson Jr, Incoming Chairman. In the background: Winfield Smith, Asst. Sec. and Linnea Ogrentz, Recording Secretary.

Club. Through his involvement with our District, he has been awarded scholarships more than once, and he will graduate this December with his Bachelors degree. We are proud of our young members and hope that they will continue to volunteer to fill leadership roles in our lodge in the future.

Submitted by: **Lynda Smith/Nordik Folk Lodge**

Jubileum Lodge #755

Madison, WI

Our February 12 program featured Carol Bender and Dalamålning—Dala Painting. It's also called "Kurbits painting," after the highly stylized giant flowering plant that appears everywhere. Dalamålning brightened otherwise gloomy rooms and showed off the artist's skill and the patron's status. Artists used wood stamps, bits of cloth, leaves, or vegetables, or even their fingers, saving their expensive squirrel-tail or cow-hair brush for detail work. Pigments came from the everyday world of earth and vegetation, and were mixed with an apple-vinegar medium. Carol gathers and works with such natural pigments herself. She has also met and shared techniques and ideas with Klas Hanspers, a famous Dala painter in Nusnäs.

Our Pea Soup, Pancakes, and Proverbs supper is traditionally in May, but we held it on Thursday, March 8th. This apparently upset the weather,

and two weeks of May-like record warmth followed! We shared four distinct recipes of pea soup. Gunilla Rubasch joined the traditional pancake team of Gunnard Swanson and

Gloria Waity. We then shared proverbs and stories, including Hans Fridé's traditional exposition of pea soup history and facts. We ended with a joke about ice fishing, three boys,

and Göran Persson. It would work with other controversial politicians too.

Submitted by: **Robert T. Merrill, Historian**

Vinland of Cape Cod #703

S. Dennis, MA



A proud Viking cutout welcomes visitors to the Multicultural Fair Viking crafted by Rune Borgman.

Sierra Kronan Lodge #737

Roseville, CA



Jan Brewer and Val Floren Brewer

Our 26th anniversary luncheon was held February 12th at the Pacific Street Cafe in Roseville. Thank you to Anne Erickson, Anni Bonfils, Donna Huttner, and Genny Laumann from Chairman Joan Lofgren-Sherry for all their help with this event. Barbara Wickstrom arranged for special musical entertainment by her former

friend, Val Floren Brewer and Val's son, Jan. Val played one of the accordions that had belonged to her brother, Myron Floren, the "Happy Norwegian", well known member of the Lawrence Welk band. Today Jan accompanied his mother on the drums and musical spoons. Originally from South Dakota, Val was a featured accordionist in the 1950's

with several orchestras in the Midwest, moving to Sacramento in 1960. One of her biggest thrills was performing with brother Myron, sister Genevieve, and son Jan at the California State Fair in 1998 "without rehearsal."

For the March dinner meeting a delicious corned beef and cabbage meal was prepared by Kathy Matthew's team. We were privileged to have in attendance District Master Victoria Fedor-Thurman, who was introduced by PDM Scott Matthews. Victoria spoke about the many aspects of her activities as DM. We were honored that Victoria accepted our invitation to conduct the Initiation Ceremony, making it very special for our newest member, Louis Loera. We look forward to a lovely spring and a growing Sierra Kronan family.

Submitted by: **Carol Neseewich, Lodge Historian**

SVENSK-AMERIKANSKA ARRANGEMANG 2012

Distriktslogen Södra Sverige nr 20

- 30 juni** Kl 17.00 **Höganäs** Sverige-Amerikamöte (Logemöte)
Vikens Hemgård, Viken
Kontakt: Karl-Axel Bengtsson 042-28 03 26, Magdalini Kalivas 070-669 14 52
Logen Höganäs nr 634
- 5 aug** Kl 11.00 **Minnesotadagen med Årets Svenskamerikan**
Kl 13.00 Gudstjänst i Ljuders kyrka
Program i Ljuders hembygdsparck alternativt i kyrkan, Årets Svenskamerikan Ingvar Wikstrom hyllas, högtidstal, Växjö Manskör medverkar
Kontakt: Catherine Bringselius Nilsson 0470-28588
- 5 aug** Kl 14.00 - **Barkeryd Barkerydsdagen – "50:e gången"**
Kl 18.00 Barkeryds Hembygdsgrd, ligger 1 km väst om Barkeryds kyrka
Dagen firas som en hyllning till S M Swenson från Barkeryd, som byggde ett ranchimperium i Texas.
Kortege med Huskvarna musikkår
Medverkande: Författaren Maj-Gull Axelsson, Texas Lucia 2011 med gäster och Näverlindadalens teatergrupp från Stenberga
Kontakt: Bo Ahlsgård 0381-30227
Logen Småland nr 618
- 18 aug** Kl 18.00 **Kristianstad Svensk-Amerikanskt Logemöte**
Sirius Ordens lokal, V. Boulevarden 35, Kristianstad
Kontakt: Åke Mellnert 044-244664
Logen Christian nr 617
- 19 aug** Kl 11.00 **Önnestad Sverige-Amerikadagen/ Hans Mattsonsdagen**
Svensk-Amerikansk gudstjänst i kyrkan. Fanparad till Hembygdsparcken.
Tal, plakettutdelning, musik, folklöre och utställningar.
Kontakt: Karin Holmqvist 044-24 13 78
Logen Christian nr 617
- Andrew Petersonutställning**
Asby gamla skola (mellan Tranås och Österbymo i Ydre kommun)
Lördagar: 11.00 – 14.00 - 30 juni till 4 augusti
Onsdagar och torsdagar kl 15.00-17.00 - 4 juli till 2 augusti
Andrew Peterson Society www.andrewpeterson.se

Välkommen till Sverige i sommar!

Submitted by: **Maureen Bengtsson, District Cultural Leader** dkl@voadi20.se

SWEDISH NEWS

Carlskrona Lodge Nr 601 Karlskrona

Peter Enckell, redaktör för tidningen Commersen, höll föredrag i januari.

Han berättade om det stenrika Blekinge, som är en del av Blekinges historia som tyvärr ofta glöms bort. Vi fick se exempel på olika stensorter. Slipade plattor där stenens inneboende färger och lyster verkligen framträdde. Vi fick exempel på platser ute i stora vida världen där Blekinges natur är representerad i form av olika stenarbeten. Gatstenen som bildar cirkulationsplatsen kring Triumfbågen i Paris, nedre delen av Empire State Building i New York och inte minst alla stadsgator runt om i våra närmaste grannländer.

Föreläsningen i mars hölls av Br Alf Andersson. Han berättade medryckande och roligt om Puke, Blekinges store sjöhjälte och hans anknytning till Frimurarehuset. Han beskrev de olika rummen, deras utformning och färgsättning. Berättade om föremål och målningar som finns samt om den enorma kristallkronan i Blå kabinettet. Även att svenska och amerikanska frimurarsystemet skiljer sig åt nämndes. Trots att vi har

våra möten i husets lokaler, så fick flera av oss nya kunskaper och vi tittade nog alla med nya ögon på vissa av sakerna.

Ett mycket intressant och lärorikt föredrag.

Logen Enköping Nr 646



Under januari hade logen Enköping nr 646 sin årliga julgransplundring. Många hade samlats för att få dansa ut julen och träffa tomten.

Under ledning av kulturledare Pernilla Erlandssons och musikanterna Taimi Johansson och Ivar Karlsson passade man på att dansa kring granen och sjunga de traditionella julsånger.

Innan dagen var slut kom tomten och frågade om det fanns några snälla barn och lämnade godispåsar till både vuxna och

barn. Som avslutning gjorde man en gemensam raket innan man kände att julen nu var utdansad.

I februari hade logen Enköping nr 646 sitt årsmöte. Som underhållning för kvällen gästades man av Inge Thorsson från Uppsala. I *frack och slohatt* passade han på att roa publiken med berättelser om sitt liv som violinist och de människor han mött under åren. Bland annat arbetade han många år som musiker på operan i Stockholm. Han berättade om ett av sina möten med en av Sveriges stora operasångerskor Birgit Nilsson.

Marsmötet gick i Elvis tecken. Som föreläsare denna kväll hade man inbjudit från Enköping, Elvissamlaren, Lennart Lundborg.

Han växte upp när Elvis började sin bana inom musiken och började fatta intresse för hans musik under 50 talet.

Lennart Lundborg visade ett stort kunnande om Elvis och berättade att Elvis först upplevdes som en countrywestern sångare i de hemtrakter han kom ifrån i Söder. Elvis själv hade under sin tid en stor kärlek till svart musik och främst gospel. Elvis kom under åren sedan att arbeta under Överste Parkers regi och för skivbolaget RCA. Elvis fick två grammysar för sina två religiösa skivalbum.

Elvis största och mest kända religiösa sång är "How great you are" som i Sverige heter "O store Gud." Lennart själv berättade om sitt stora minne när han som 19 åring på 70-talet fick komma till USA och arbeta en period med garant genom Vasa Orden av Amerika. Då passade han tillsammans med vänner att bila ner till Las Vegas. Där fick han möjlighet att se en show med Elvis och fick betala ca 10 dollar. Då ingick tre gratisdrinkar och ett vykort. Lennart berättade att hela showen och Elvis kändes magnetiskt att se.

Under tiden Lennart berättade om Elvis visade han många fina samlarobjekt bl a gamla skivor och tidningar som idag är svåra att få tag i. Han spelade även upp låtar med Elvis som man fick jämföra mot original versionen. Under kaffet fick man sedan möjlighet att samtala med Lennart om Elvis samt titta närmare på de samlarobjekt han hade tagit med sig.

Submitted by: E. Agge,
Sekreterare

Logen Härmösand Nr 673

Årets första möte 9 mars, samlade 44 Vasasyskon. Mötet öppnades av vice ordförande Bengt Nyberg. Efter sedvanliga

förhandlingar erhöll Marianne Högberg förtjänststecken för 25 års medlemskap i vår Loge, av DD Rolf Ögren från Logen Mälardrottningen 563. KL Bo Selin berättade att intresset var stort för Sveriges nyfödda prinsessa i USA.

Efter mötet inbjöds vi till en synnerligen god middag, av värdparen Ulla-Britt Nordin och Börje Nygren, Sonja och Sten Nygren, samt Ulla och Bert Wallin.

Ulla-Britt Nordin ledde allsång med gott understöd av Berg Wallin på dragspel.

Efter kaffet berättade Nils-Olof Dahlbom om sin uppväxt och tid som odlare ute i Nas. Många trevliga minnen som lockade till skratt hos oss. Efter en trevlig kväll var vi nöjda att bege oss hem.



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.

Art Bjorkner, Grand Lodge Membership Chairman
31 Vasa Drive,
Hackettstown NJ 07840-5314 USA

DL CONNECTICUT NO. 1

Norden Lodge No. 1
George L. Caron
Lois Mae Caron
Gary M. Steinmiller
Beverly M. Swanson
Inger G. Swanson
Betty Uryga
Three Crown Lodge No. 38
Barbro Marie Babcock
Karl XII No. 103
Amy Christina Distel

DL MASSACHUSETTS NO. 2

Nordic Lodge No. 611
Margaretta Bouthiller
Donald Lawrence Peterson
Janice E. Peterson

DL NEW YORK NO. 4

Tegner Lodge No. 109
Dean William Bennett
Amy Lynn Bullock
David Andrew Fältskog
Naomi Marie Fältskog
Joseph E. Huth
Barbara R. Meffert Huth
Cory Brett Jensen
Jaakko Rougle
Robert E. Sundell
Anne Ford Taylor

DL NEW JERSEY NO. 6

Three Crowns Lodge No. 704
Dawn Lee Pierson
Stephen Brian Pope
Eric Darryl Rebels
Randolph Michael Scott
Dalahäst Lodge No. 742
Jack Olson
Rose Olson

DL MINNESOTA NO. 7

Stenbock Lodge No. 138
Kevin David Larson

John Morton Lodge No. 488
William Peterson

DL LAKE MICHIGAN NO. 8

Svea Lodge No. 254
Gregory A. MacLennan
Viljan Lodge No. 349
Michael Allen Isaacson
Satellite Lodge No. 661
Mary Elizabeth Johnson
Bishop Hill Lodge No. 683
Fredrik Almgren
Kathleen Ann Litwiler
Theresa Mae Owens
Stephen Arno Owens

DL PENNSYLVANIA NO. 9

Nobel-Monitor Lodge No. 130
Kristi Ann Bergren
Noah Danner Benson
Svea Lodge No. 296
Robin Sue Arvickson

DL GOLDEN GATE NO. 12

Monitor Lodge No. 218
Ann V. Clewett
John Allan Clewett
Laila Margareta Harris
Svea Lodge No. 348
Anne-Marie Victoria Kemberling
Doris Marie Michael
Framåt Lodge No. 405
Allyson MacKenzie Martindale
Morgan Rilee Martindale
Linnea Lodge No. 504
W. Joy Carlson
Oscal Donald Carlson
Eric Donald Carlson
Dana Edstrom
Anita Lees
Vanya Leighton
Linda Pearl
Trish Terrell
Skogen Lodge No. 700
Carol Ann Johnson
Bradford Robert Seaberg

Joan Elynor Reynolds
Rochelle Angela Reynolds
Valhalla Scandinavians Lodge
No. 746

Ingela Frieda Elisabeth Sakkestad
Richard K. Slayton

DL PACIFIC NORTHWEST NO. 13

North Star Lodge No. 145
Janet Christine Wilson
Norden Lodge No. 233
Sarah Ellen Callow
Karen Kay Edwards
Harmoni Lodge No. 472
Christine Anne Smith
Vic P. Haffey
Olympia Lodge No. 550
Carol Elizabeth Virgil

DL PACIFIC SOUTHWEST NO. 15

Evening Star Lodge No. 426
Edwin Bennett
Kiley Nicole Jahn
Kristiana Rebecca Nordin
Annika Finn Spaberg
Katie Erika Spaberg
Kody Jay Spaberg
Melinda Jean Spaberg
Golden Valley Lodge No. 616
Eugene Henry Paulin
Jason D. Trowbridge
Evelyn Weale-Lindfors

DL ALBERTA NO. 18

Red Deer Lodge No. 733
Keri Mirela Austin
Ulrika Sara Jenny Wikner

DL NORRA SVERIGE NO. 19

LL Enköping Nr. 646
Lars-Goran Andersson
Görel Andersson
Richard Faxén

Ingar Faxén
Anders Faxén
Hans Lundvall

DL SÖDRA SVERIGE NO. 20

LL Christian Nr. 617
Lars Ewers
LL Ronneby Nr. 630
Christer Mermansson
Ingrid Hermansson
Carl-Johan Holm
Libe Holm
LL Höganäs Nr. 634
Narianne Nitede
Margareta Sellberg
LL Carl von Linné Nr. 678
Kjell Ljungqvist
Christina Hjorth
LL Utvandrarne Nr. 680
Gunilla K. Fernström
Pavel Kopcok
Terezia Kopcok

DL ARIZONA NO. 21

Phoenix Lodge No. 677
Kenneth J. Ahlberg
Janet Lynn Berge

Madeline Lea Berge
Donald James Malmberg
Arlene A. Mix
Solstad Lodge No. 709
Alan Howard Smith
Karen Olson Smith
Alan P. Strom

GRAND LODGE JURISDICTION

Nordic Lodge No. 708
Kristina Anderson
Agneta Belue
Florence A. Esquivel
Bernard Gilliland
Harold Howell
Constantine (Stan) Hvostik
Sven O. Lovegren
Carl Henrik Mikael Malmberg
Jacot Durant Mimms
Susanne M. Nilson
Thomas I. Riley
George Smedberg
Carl XVI Gustaf No. 716
Esther Jean Larson

AUDIO-VISUAL DIRECTOR

Mike Pearson

7309 New Hampshire Pl
Hammond, IN 46323-2937 USA
Phone: (219) 588-4752

E-mail: audiovisual.vasaorder@yahoo.com

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.

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

CALIFORNIA

ARLINE ERICKSON passed away in Santa Cruz, CA on January 11, 2012, at the age of 94. She was born in San Bernardino, CA on September 5, 1917 and joined North Star Lodge No. 106 on January 15, 1935. She was the oldest in time member and also the oldest member. She is survived by her daughter Florale Williams, Santa Cruz, CA, and son Kenneth Erickson, Ankara, Turkey; and four grandchildren, all living in different U.S. States.

CONNECTICUT

ARNE GUSTAV OHRN died on Thursday, Feb. 9, 2012. Born in Dalarna, Sweden June 11, 1915, he was 97 years old. Arne came to America with his family in 1924 at the age of nine. He joined Three Crown Lodge No. 38, Stamford, CT on June 23, 1937. He is survived by his wife of 71 years, two daughters, six grandchildren and ten great grandchildren.

ILLINOIS

VIVIAN ALLEN passed away October 16, 2011 in Peoria, IL at the age of 82. She was born June 29, 1929 in downers Grove, IL. She joined Viljan Lodge #349, Batavia, IL in January 1996. She is survived by five sons, five daughters, 16 grandchildren and many great grandchildren.

ROBERT W. MILLER passed away March 29, 2012 in Wheaton, IL at the age of 73. He was born Nov. 2, 1928 in Greentown, IN. He joined Viljan Lodge #349, Batavia, IL on March 22, 2001. He is survived by two daughters, one son and five grandchildren.

MASSACHUSETTS

LENA (KULLENBERG) ANDERSON of South Dennis passed peacefully away on October 6, 2011 at age 91. She was born November 4, 1919 in Sweden and moved with her family to Greendale in Worcester, MA in 1923 where there was a growing Swedish community. As a young girl she "cleaned house", prepared meals and babysat for children of the wealthy families. She loved to drive a "gang of dancing friends" in her dad's car to dance halls throughout MA, NH, and RI. Lena and her parents organized many events for The Swedish Federation, the Swedish Athletic Club (SAC) and the Swedish Folk Dance Club. She graduated from Commerce High School and joined the U.S. Marines serving proudly during World War II. She served as a corporal and was stationed at Camp LeJeune, NC and Miramar Base, CA. Lena was also a member of Zion Lutheran Church, the Worcester Girls Club and Girl and Boy Scouts with her children. After her two children entered school, she worked as a secretary and clerk at Norton Company with many other Swedes. Lena, her husband Eric and children moved to the summer home they built on Cape Cod in 1970. Their home overlooks Bass River near the location of the Viking rune stones. Lena studied the research and lectured about the brief settlements of Leif Ericson and his family in this area. She was an active member and officer of many organizations including the Cape Cod Auxiliary, the Federation of Women's Clubs, and Eastern Star. She joined Vinland Lodge of Cape Cod on October 17, 1980 and served as Assistant Financial Secretary, Chairman and Past Chairman. Survivors include two children, five grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. She also leaves her brother Verner Kullenberg of Hagfors, Sweden.

FLORENCE (LINDSTROM) FREEMAN of Brewster passed away at age 93 on September 17, 2011. She was the widow of Donald Forbes Freeman. She had worked as a legal secretary and as a secretary to an elementary school principal. She also worked at Pratt & Whitney in Connecticut during World War II. She joined Vinland Lodge of Cape Cod on October 15, 1993. Two sons and two grandchildren survive her.

WALLACE "WALLY" LORNELL of Yarmouth Port passed away on May 7, 2011 at age 89. He was born in Minneapolis, MN on September 9, 1921. He was the Director of School Social Work Services for the state of New York and helped build Homes for Habitat for Humanity. He joined Vinland Lodge of Cape Cod in April 2008. He leaves his wife of 65 years Betty Jane "BJ" and three children. A memorial service was held August 25, 2011.

GEORGE WILLIAM LUNDQUIST of Brewster passed away August 13, 2011. He was born June 10, 1925 in Hartford, CT. His mother, Astrid was from Boras, Sweden and his dad Ragnar was an eel fisherman in Sweden. Thus, George's love of fishing and his ancestral homeland were formed early. George was a crewmember in the U.S. Air Force stationed in England during W.W. II. He graduated from the University of Connecticut School of Electrical Engineering and worked for United Illuminating Co. of New Haven, CT for 34 years. He was the

beloved husband of Adele (Reideman) Lundquist for 63 years. They moved to Cape Cod in 1986 and joined Vinland Lodge of Cape Cod on January 19, 1990. He served several terms in offices including Membership, Vice Chairman, Chairman, Past Chairman and Trustee. As a member of The Baker Boys Chorus he performed at many Lucia Fests. Adele and George made many trips to Sweden to visit George's family. He was active in Little League Baseball, the Exchange Club in CT, Captains Golf Club, and the Cape Cod Salties Sport Fishing and Conservation Club. He organized programs to tag and track striped bass migration, Canal Cleanup Days, Herring Run restoration projects and Learn to Fish Days. His dad would be so proud.

Survivors include his wife Adele, son George Jr. daughters Cheryl and Susan, 2 grandchildren and a sister. George possessed a brave and strong spirit, yet was a gentle soul who would do anything for his family or a friend in need.

EIVIND OLAV SOHOEL of Brewster passed away on September 3, 2011 at age 77 after a courageous battle with cancer. He was born on September 21, 1933 in Oslo, Norway to Gunnar Kristian and Eli (Magnussen) Sohoel. As a young boy, he was fascinated by machinery and how things worked. He recalled his boyhood years in Norway during W.W. II and also as a member of the Norwegian Army. He was an engineering graduate of Statenteknologiske Institutt and served in a variety of industries. His work as a consultant for IKO of Oslo and Stockholm led to the development of his patented Shock Pulse Method for bearing damage detection. Based upon his method, SPM Instrument AB (Sweden) was established and subsequently Eivind served as President and Director of Research and Development of SPM Instrument US (USA) in Connecticut. Eivind is an internationally recognized expert in the field of rolling element bearing condition monitoring, damage detection, lubrication analysis, instrumentation and transducer design. He was a member of The Society of Lubrication Engineers and the Vibration Institute.

After retiring to Cape Cod, Eivind and his wife Marilyn launched MICC Corporation, a consulting firm and he continued working in his field, as well as that of medical instrumentation. Eivind and Marilyn joined Vinland Lodge of Cape Cod on April 19, 2008. He enjoyed visiting and reminiscing with the other Norwegian and Swedish guys, usually standing near the coffee pot table. Eivind constructed our 8 foot tall Maypole (midsommarstang) from PVC pipe and Marilyn decorated it with flowers, ribbons and flags for our Midsummer Fests and Multi-Cultural fairs. He produced our Lodge Directory and programs for our Lucia Fests and Midsummer Fests. If something needed fixing or created, our tall quiet Viking would say, "Ja. Let me see vut I kan du....". And then he would! Eivind's beloved survivors include his wife, Marilyn, three children, 9 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

DERELYN TWOMBLEY of West Yarmouth passed away August 28, 2011 at age 88. She was born in Quincy, MA. Derelyn joined Vinland Lodge of Cape Cod on April 24, 1987. She especially enjoyed attending our luncheons with her son and we were delighted to visit with her. She leaves two children and several nieces and nephews.

MICHIGAN

ARTHUR ANDERSON passed away on March 20, 2012 in Escanaba, MI at the age of 84. He was born October 3, 1927 in Escanaba, MI. He joined Framåt Lodge #463 on February 13, 2000. He is survived by his wife Lois Mae, four children – Chris, Kim, Debbie, and Keith, and five grandchildren.

LOIS MAE ANDERSON passed away April 8, 2012 in Escanaba, MI at the age of 74, just nine days after her beloved husband, Arthur. She was born on August 14, 1937 in Escanaba, MI. She joined Framåt Lodge #463 on February 13, 2000. She is survived by four children – Chris, Kim, Debbie, and Keith, and five grandchildren.

MINNESOTA

D. ARLENE HOLMGREN, age 86, passed away on October 9, 2011 after a lengthy illness. She was a 1951 graduate of Gustavus Adolphus College. Loving wife, mother, former parish worker and substitute teacher. Follow in death by husband, Arthur, on October 20, 2011. (See C. Arthur Holmgren memorial)

C. ARTHUR HOLMGREN, age 88, passed away on October 20, 2011. "Arthur" was preceded in death just 11 days earlier by his wife of 58 years, "Arlene." Arthur was a P38 pilot in WWII. Later, he worked as a teacher in the St. Paul Public Schools. He held a bachelor's degree in teaching from St. Cloud Teacher's College and went on to earn his Master's Degree from St. Thomas College. Arthur and Arlene are survived by: two sons, David (Natalie) and Wayne; Arlene's sisters and their spouses; niece Maryellen Mikwold; nephew Clifford Trudell; and many friends in Minnesota and Sweden. They were both long-time members of V.O.A. Kronan Lodge #433 in St. Paul. Their commitment to each other, their family, to God, and to their Swedish heritage is a model for all who knew them.

MARION R. LINDBERG was born in Minneapolis, MN on Nov. 15, 1918 and passed away March 29, 2012. She joined Stenbock Lodge #138 on June 11, 1970. She is survived by sons Rex (Dee) and Steven (Sharlene), four grandchildren, three great grandchildren, and sister Delores Dieter.

OHIO

CLARENCE F. "CHIC" CARLSON, 85, passed away on January 1, 2012. Predeceased by his wife, Juanita, "Chic" is survived by his sons Mark (Dimitry) and Bruce (Linda), and his daughter Elaine (Fred) Wolf; grandchildren Brett, Nicholas, Craig, Kerstin, Richard, Andrew, John, Samuel, Peter, Elliot, Matthew, Claire; and great-grandchildren Aiden, Matteus, and Arian. "Chic" was born in Akron, OH and joined Nobel-Monitor Lodge #130 on February 11, 1996

VIOLET M. PETERSON (nee Sandberg), age 95, beloved wife of the late George O., dearest mother of Ronald G. (Partner, Daniel Cech) and the late Joan Mueller, loving grandmother of Robert Mueller (Anna), and Kenneth Mueller (Wendy), cherished great-grandmother of Stephanie Brannan (Kevin

and Amanda, Samantha, and Alexandria Mueller, great-great grandmother of Briana and Kameron Brannan, passed away in Cleveland, OH on March 11, 2012. Violet joined Nobel-Monitor Lodge #130 on June 28, 1935 and was a LIFE member.

BETTY (Swenson) SCHALLER of Chesterland, OH died at the age of 86 on January 11, 2012. She is survived by her daughters Lauren (Phil) Wrona, Christine (Byron) Knutson, and Suzanne "Annie" (Turi) Solu; grandchildren Paul, Amy, Carl, Cameron, Nicholas, and Connor; brother Dr. Robert (Carol) Swenson; and brother-in-law John Berglund. She was preceded in death by her husband Byron "Bud" and sister Marjorie Berglund. Betty joined Nobel-Monitor Lodge #130 on October 8, 1989, and for many years directed their choral group *Vasa Voices*.

HOWARD EDWARD SMITH, born in Cleveland, OH, died at age 90 on December 30, 2011 at his son's home in Valparaiso, IN. He was the beloved husband of the late Miriam (Lehto) Smith. Surviving are his daughters Jananne Cannon (Philip, deceased) and Jennifer Cook (Brian); his son Jeffrey Smith; grandchildren Theodore, Elizabeth, Stacey, Scott, Oliver, and Weston; and great-granddaughters Katelynn and Ellis. Howard was a member of Nobel-Monitor Lodge #130, having joined on May 7, 1995

GRACE O. RAMSTROM (nee Olson) age 96, passed away in Cleveland, OH on February 20, 2012. She was the loving mother of Gaye G. Ramstrom of Cleveland and Gordon D. Ramstrom of Seattle, WA and their families. Dearest daughter of the late David and Magda (nee Asp) Olson. Cherished sister of the late June Olson Price. Dearest aunt of Deborah VanDyne and dear sister-in-law of Marjorie Ramstrom of Arlington, TX. Grace joined Nobel-Monitor Lodge #130 on April 13, 1980.

VINCENT E. SHOGREN passed away Jan. 19, 2012 at the age of 87. He was born Dec. 13, 1924 in Bessemer, PA and was initiated in Harmony Lodge #465 on May 18, 1963. He leaves his wife of 61 years, the former Lois Hedlund, two daughters, Carolyn Ahlberg and Elizabeth Enquist, and five grandchildren.

PENNSYLVANIA

VIVIAN D. CLARE, age 90, passed away March 2, 2012. She was born in Philadelphia, PA January 7, 1922. Vivian joined Oscars Borg Lodge No. 172 in 1975 and this year was honored with a life membership. She is survived by her daughter Linda Cleaver and by two grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Vivian was an enthusiastic and faithful Vasa member.

STASIA TORDIS INGRID FLINK, age 97, passed away March 9, 2012 at her home in Drumore, PA. She was born in Gothenburg, Sweden, October 14, 1914. She and her family emigrated to the USA in 1955 and joined Oscars Borg Lodge No. 173 on November 10, 1956 where she was a life member and former chairperson. She worked in retail sales for over 23 years in the John Wanamaker department store in Wynnewood, PA. She was married to the late Ernst E. Flink for 47 years and is survived by daughter Eva-Birgitta Flink, son Lars Goran Flink and his wife Jeannette, two grandsons and their wives, and three great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by

three siblings. Stasia's kind heart and caring spirit were a source of strength and encouragement to those around her.

TEXAS

RUTH BENTGTON OLSON passed away April 9, 2012 at the age of 95. She was born near Round Rock, TX on June 26, 1916. She was a Charter member of Carl Widen Lodge #743; joining February 12, 1989 - where she held many offices. Survived by daughter Carol Champion and husband Bob; son Teddy Bengtson, Jr; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; sister Hazel Campbell; nieces, nephews and friends.

VIRGINIA B. WESSON passed away on February 4, 2012 at the age of 85. She was born in Austin, Texas July 15, 1926 and joined Carl Widen Lodge #743 in April 1991. She is survived by sons Rodney and Keith, five grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren, and a sister.

WASHINGTON

PHYLLIS CLAWSON passed away April 12, 2012 at the age of 94 years. She was born in Terrell Iowa and was a member of Svea Lodge #469. She is survived by two daughters Roberta Rupe and Barbara Spies and a brother Donald Thorp.

GRETA HARVEY, a 76 year member of Svea Lodge #469, Longview, WA passed away on February 6, 2012 at the age of 94. She was born to Erik and Ingeborg Myren in Bollstabruk, Sweden on January 5, 1918 and came to America at the age of five years old. She was preceded in death by two husbands - Edwin Orr and Erik Harvey and a son Michael Orr. A memorial service for Greta was held on February 9, 2012.

CARL L. MILLER, a lifelong resident of the Skagit Valley area of Washington passed away Aug. 9, 2011. He was a beloved member of Solidaritet No. 396. He is survived by niece Donna Cook, her family and extended family members. He served his country in WWII and married in 1951. For many years, he came early in the morning to help with the pancake breakfast.

ROBERT "BOB" RANEY JR of Gackle, North Dakota died March 21, 2012 at the age of 57. He was born in San Diego, CA and is survived by his wife Rose and parents Robert and Shirley Raney. Bob was a member of Svea Lodge #469 in Longview, WA.

MEMORIAL NOTICES

should be mailed with check or money order to: Annelie Lindberg, 105 Gorrion Ave., Ventura, CA 93004. Phone: 805-672-0032. E-mail: vasaeditor@earthlink.net. 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.

TRAVEL IN STYLE
YOUR STYLE

BUSINESS, ECONOMY EXTRA OR ECONOMY



Use your smart phone to visit our site.



Book now at flysas.com/us

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER