



# THE VASA STAR

## VASASTJÄRNAN

SUMMER 2014  
Publication of *The Vasa Order of America*



GL Executive Board 2014-2018 / Standing (from left): John Hanright, Bruce Elfvin, Jeff Klein, Fae Doty, Ulf Alderlöf / Sitting (from left): Lee-Ann Hurtubise, Joan Graham, Tore Kellgren, Art Bjorkner, Keith Hanlon. / p5

## THE GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE



DEAR VASA BROTHERS AND SISTERS,  
It is with much humility and an equal amount of pride that I am taking on the role as your Grand Master. The 2014 Grand Lodge Convention is now over. My sincere thanks to District Lodge New York No.4 for having taken on the hosting of this event and doing it in the record time of only three years. What

an accomplishment! Many thanks to DM Carl Geffken and his team for putting on a superbly well run event, in business as well as in pleasure. Also much thanks to outgoing Grand Master Bill Lundquist for his leadership during the last four years. I further want to thank Grand Secretary Joan Graham and Grand Treasurer Keith Hanlon for their untiring work during the last four years.

During the Convention many fundamental issues were brought forth as motions and as recommendations. Some of the issues called for much discussion, and all in all I am very pleased with the decisions reached. Details are forthcoming with the publication of the Records of Proceedings.

I congratulate all the Grand Lodge delegates, past Grand Lodge officers, past Grand Masters, Honorary Life Members and Officers on their work and thoughtfulness in executing their duties to Vasa. I also want to congratulate the newly elected and reelected officers: Vice Grand Master Art Bjorkner, Grand Secretary Joan Graham, Grand Treasurer Keith Hanlon, Vice Grand

Secretary Lee-Ann Anderson Hurtubise and members of the Executive Board: Eastern Region John Hanright, Midwest Region Bruce Elfvin, Western Region Jeff Klein, Sweden Ulf Alderlöf and Canada Fae Doty.

I am sure we will have a productive four years, where we will meet many new challenges. In my opinion our highest priority is the threat to Vasa from a rapidly shrinking membership. I am asking all of you to think hard about our future. Are we ready to make changes for the good of the order? Not only in word but also in deed! Our ways of doing business, especially in the U.S. and Canada, must change if we want Vasa to thrive. I will have more to say about this in future messages.

I have chosen the motto "Vasa Proud." I think it appropriately reflects what we all have to be — and do. Talk Vasa, talk Vasa, talk Vasa! We need to recruit new members any time we can. Making people aware of Vasa is the first step in attracting members. I challenge you all, couples and individuals alike, to each sponsor one new member in the next

four years. Just one is all I ask!

Secretaries, don't forget to let me know of birthdays, starting at 75 and every five year increment thereafter, and likewise any membership anniversaries starting at 50 years and again five year increments. I would very much like to send a greeting.

Over the last four years I have been visiting many of your District Conventions and often heard that we need to modernize our website. To that end I am asking if we have a web designer in Vasaland who might be interested in designing a new website and integrating it with our new web database. The first task would be writing a specification in cooperation with our database designer and our database director. We also need to find someone to work with our current webmaster, with the intent of taking over that position in the future. If you are interested or you know some member that might be interested in either of these positions, please contact me or let me know who I should contact.

IN TRUTH AND UNITY,  
TORE KELLGREN, GRAND MASTER

### Stig Sälgeback's Final Report

as Cultural Leader is written at Midsummer time and deals with some important events in the old country. / p16

### Summary of the GL Meeting

The full cycle of an amazing Grand Lodge term has now been completed with the Grand Lodge Convention in New York. / p5

### DL Pacific Southwest No. 15

The past District Master's Club put a lot of time and effort into hosting the 100th Convention, and this year was no different. / p9

### Winners of the 2014 Scholarships

The Grand Lodge Scholarship Committee announces the winners of this year's College or Vocational School Scholarship Awards. / p6

# EDITOR'S MESSAGE



If things seem a little different in this issue of Vasa, it's because a lot has happened since the last Vasa Star! Not only will you read about all the activities and festivals which lodges across the country have enjoyed during the daylight-filled days of summer, but you are also introduced to Vasa's new Grand Master, Tore Kellgren, Stormästare. Many of you already know him, but you can learn more

in his message on the front cover – and in Swedish, on page 4. Also new to the Vasa Star is yours truly. I'm not completely new, actually, having worked with *Nordstjernan* since 2007, and for participating with my children in Skansen, Linde Lodge's children's club, as well. But, coming on board as an editor for this organization is an honor and a joy, and even a bit of a homecoming. I've always

been very proud of my Swedish roots; both sides of my family are of Swedish descent – all four generations of the Olson and Widman lines born in America married another Swedish-American. I got the tall gene, blue eyes, broad face, a reserved disposition, an appreciation for *filmjolk* and a love for *apelsin marmelad med ost* (sliced with an *osthyvel*, of course).

This issue is loaded with results from the Grand Lodge convention in New York, Stig Sälgeback's last report, scholarship and lodge news, information on how to submit your contributions to the next Vasa Star, and so much more.

I know I join everyone on the Vasa Star staff in hoping you enjoy your fall activities and plans with your local lodge. Please let us know about them!

AMANDA OLSON ROBISON  
VASAEDITOR@GMAIL.COM

## ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS



Calmare Nyckel No. 628 celebrates Sverige-Amerikadagen. / p13



Local lodge Tegner No. 109 celebrated its 107th anniversary. / p9

## Deadlines for The Vasa Star

Fall Deadline » October 6  
Winter Deadline » January 5

- 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!

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

## Where to Submit Material

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## Christmas Greetings

Send your lodge or personal Christmas greetings to  
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**Please send no later than September 30.**  
One inch greeting - \$10, larger greetings - \$25

## Swedish Verbs

Chapter 7, Part 1 of Introduction to Swedish verbs. / p14

## NORDSTJERNAN

The Swedish Newspaper in America

is proud to be of assistance in presenting *The Vasa Star*, *Vasastjärnan* in a new format, in print and digitally. *Nordstjernan* has been reporting on current events in Swedish America since September, 1872.

**Kenneth T. Jackson**, Professor of History at Columbia University and Editor-in-chief, *The Encyclopedia of New York City*, said it best:

*"Over the past century and a half, more newspapers were published in New York than in any other city in the world, in large part because of the huge foreign-born community and the variety of publications that the different ethnic groups spawned. Most had a brief and almost ephemeral life, but Nordstjernan has been remarkable for its long life and high quality. It not only helped Swedish immigrants adjust to life in a new world and a giant city, but it set a standard that other newspapers worked hard to emulate."*

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### Family Tree Släktutredningar

I am a member of the Vasa Order in Sweden and an expert in Swedish genealogy. Over the years I have helped many Vasa members to find their roots in Sweden. If you want my help to find your Swedish ancestors, please email me for further information: [swedengen@telia.com](mailto:swedengen@telia.com)

### Remember the Vasa Archives

when you are making a memorial donation  
Send your donations to:  
Vasa National Archives  
PO Box 101, Bishop Hill, IL 61419

## DONATE to the Education & Scholarship Funds

Send your donations to: Vasa Order of America, Joan Graham, Grand Secretary  
5838 San Jose Ave., Richmond, CA 94804

## THE VASA STAR

Summer 2014  
Vol. 106, No. 3, Serial 848  
Published by The Vasa Order of America  
[www.vasaorder.com](http://www.vasaorder.com)

**HEADQUARTERS**  
**Grand Secretary / Joan Graham**  
5838 San Jose Avenue  
Richmond, CA 94804  
(510) 526 5512  
[vasajlg@aol.com](mailto:vasajlg@aol.com)

**Grand Master / Tore Kellgren**  
5971 W. Walbrook Drive  
San Jose, CA 95129  
Phone: (408) 996 1970 | (408) 505 6623  
[tore@kellgren.org](mailto:tore@kellgren.org)

**Editor / Amanda Robison**  
**Managing Editor / Dan Berubé-Arbello**

**Send articles, photos & memorials to:**  
The Vasa Star  
PO Box 8193  
Pittsburgh, PA 15217  
[vasaeditor@gmail.com](mailto:vasaeditor@gmail.com)

**Circulation Manager / Joan Graham**  
5838 San Jose Avenue  
Richmond, CA 94804  
(510) 526 5512  
[circulationvasastar@gmail.com](mailto:circulationvasastar@gmail.com)  
Send **address changes** and bottom section of application for new members to Joan Graham.

**Membership Chairman / Bruce Elfvin**  
2924 E. Overlook Road  
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118-2434  
[bbe@elfvinbesser.com](mailto:bbe@elfvinbesser.com)

**Advertising**  
Call 1.800.827.9333, ask for Vasa Star rates  
[vasaeditor@gmail.com](mailto:vasaeditor@gmail.com)  
Layout & production: *Nordstjernan*, Swedish News, Inc.

## How to submit Photos to the Vasa Star

Occasionally photos are submitted to Vasa Star that are not usable, and you're disappointed when your photo isn't used.

Here are some guidelines to follow:

1. Best photos are taken with a digital camera or a cell phone camera. These are perfect when downloaded to a computer and emailed directly to the Editor. Please don't try to modify them, no tweaking, no changing to black and white.

2. Photographs can be scanned, but be sure they are good quality photographs, at least 4x6 in size. If you scan them, be sure they are saved as a .jpeg and 250-300 dpi. If you are not sure of the size, mail the original photograph.

3. Photos pasted into a Word document are difficult to work with, so whenever possible don't use this method. Send the photos separately, as an email attachment or by regular mail.

4. Most importantly, be sure to include a caption naming each person (if it's a small group.)

Editor's email:  
vasaeditor@gmail.com

Address:  
Vasa Star  
P.O. Box 8193  
Pittsburgh PA 15127

## Family Tree Släktutredningar

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## ARCHIVE NEWS

### Message from the President of The Vasa National Archives, PGM, William Lundquist

Greetings Fellow Vasa Members,

A new Vasa National Archives Board was elected following the Grand Lodge Convention earlier this month. Those serving on the Board include:

PGM, William Lundquist, president

Tom Cleveland, vice president

Carl Geffken, secretary

GT, Keith Hanlon, treasurer

GM, Tore Kellgren

VGM, Art Bjorkner

MEB – Midwest, Bruce Elfvin

Sten Hult

Charlotte Börjesson

You can expect a brief article in each edition of the Vasa Star regarding the ongoing health of the Archives and events that will take place either at the Archives or in Bishop Hill.

Our archivist, Viktoria Almgren, was able to attend the recent GL Convention with financial support from her district, Lake Michigan #8. She had conversations with many in attendance, helping them understand her role at the Archives and introducing projects that are under way there.



Once again, it is time to write a few lines from the archives. This year, the months seem to run away. There are only four months left until Christmas.

We here at the archives have received a donation and birthday present from Nobel Lodge in Moline for three custom-made display cases worth \$2,000. A warm thank you to Nobel Lodge for its generosity. Now we can show our unique collections of coins and stamps.

We also appreciate the donations that have come in to the archives from other lodges and from members who have visited us this spring and summer. We were very happy to welcome all these wonderful people. We note that the number of visitors increases every year.

As you all know, we had the Grand Lodge Convention in New York in July. It was a pleasure to attend and meet all the delegates from Canada, Sweden, as well as from the United States. We talked quite a bit about working harder to increase the membership in our organization. Personally, I believe that we ought to approach the families with children who begin to leave the nest and the parents wonder, "What do we do now?" We have much in our organization for all age groups from the city lodges to the archives here in Bishop Hill and the lodges out on the prairie.

The number of visitors to Bishop Hill continues to increase, and here at the archives we do our best to recruit new members, not only in the United States, but also for the benefit of lodges in Sweden and Canada. We have noticed an increase in the number of visitors from Sweden and the rest of Europe. The Swedes appear to know exactly where Bishop Hill is located, and they are well informed about its history. The photo shows a delightful group of visitors from Omaha, Nebraska, last spring that donated a sum of money to the archives.

Då var det dags igen att skriva några rader, detta år tycks tiden bara springa iväg, och vi har bara 4 månader till Jul!!! Puh!

Vi har på arkivet fått i donation och i födelsdagspresent tre specialbyggda boxar från Nobel loge i Molin till ett värde av 2,000 dollar. Ett stort tack till Nobel Loge för Er givmildhet! Nu kan vi visa upp vår unika utställning av mynt och frimärken.

Samtidigt vill vi på Arkivet tacka övriga loger och medlemmar som donerat och besökt oss denna vår. Det är med stor glädje vi tar emot alla dessa underbara människor, och vi kan konstatera att antalet besökare ökar för varje år.

Denna vår och sommar har det ju som alla vet varit Convention i New

A new DVD was created in May which details genealogical work done at the Archives. Each room of the Archives building is introduced and some of the history of the village is shared. This DVD is available both in English and Swedish and was designed to help improve the understanding of the benefits of the Archives to all members.

Efforts will be made to address long range financing of the Archives and new spending processes will be created. I believe donations and grants are available and we will see a positive financial future for the Archives if we work together, just as we saw for the Order over the past four years. We are very grateful for the recent \$1,000.00 donation from the Omaha Local Lodge #330. Members from the Omaha area visited the Archives to present the check after the Grand Lodge Convention.

All members now have the opportunity to help through the Heritage Fundraiser which is under way. I am personally appealing to all members to make a donation of any amount to the fundraiser this year which can make a significant contribution to the operation of the Archives.

A 40th anniversary celebration will be held at the Archives on September 6 and the annual Jul Gran celebration will be held the first week in December. It would be a pleasure to visit with you should you be in the Bishop Hill area for either of these events. Please call Viktoria for help with accommodations.

IN TRUTH AND UNITY,  
BILL LUNDQUIST, PRESIDENT OF THE VASA NATIONAL ARCHIVES



Denna underbara grupp från Omaha NE #330 besökte arkivet i våras, och donerade en summa pengar!

York, Det var väldigt trevligt att vara med och träffa alla från Kanada, Sverige och USA.

Vi talade mycket om att arbeta hårdare för att öka medlemsantalet i vår organisation, Personligen tror jag på, att vi bör samla upp personer i de familjer där barnen börjar "flyga ut" och föräldrarna undrar "vad gör vi nu då?" - den gruppen bör samlas upp. Vi har ju enormt mycket i vår förening att tillföra alla åldersgrupper allt ifrån logerna i storstäderna till loger och arkivet ute på prärien.

Antalet besökare till Bishop Hill ökar konstant och vi gör vårt bästa på arkivet för att fånga in nya medlemmar, inte bara häri USA utan även till Sverige och Kanada. Jag ser också att antalet besökare från Sverige och övriga Europa har ökat, Svenska verkarna veta exakt var Bishop Hill ligger, och är mycket pålästa innan de kommer hit.

VIKTORIA ALMGREN,  
ARCHIVES MANAGER

**40-years!**

Vasa Order of America National Archives will celebrate 40 years in Bishop Hill, IL. Welcome to Open House September 6, 2014 11.00 am—03.00 pm snacks & beverages Welcome!

BBQ Live Music and Dance at the Archives lawn 06.00pm to 12.00am (bring your own beverage)

609 South Bishop Hill St, Phone: 309-627-0698 There is an agreement with American Hotel in Kewanee, Ill for Vasa rates) \$ 60 / night + tax. Phone (309) 856 7200 rsvp (name or lodge) before August 31 to viktorias.vasa.archives@gmail.com

# GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE (Swedish)

**VASASYSKON,**

Det är med stor ödmjukhet och med lika mycket stolthet som jag tar på mig rollen som Stormästare. 2014-års Storlogekonvent är nu avslutat. Mitt stora tack till Distriktslogen New York #4 för att ha tagit på sig att vara värd för detta evenemang och gör det på rekordtid, bara tre år. Vilken fantastisk prestation! Stort tack till DM Carl Geffken och hans team för ett utmärkt väl genomfört event, både möte och underhållning. Också mycket tack till utgående Stormästare Bill Lundquist för hans ledarskap under de senaste fyra åren. Vidare vill jag tacka Storlogesekreterare Joan Graham och Storlogenkassör Keith Hanlon för deras outtröttliga arbete under de senaste fyra åren.

Under konventet fördes många grundläggande frågor fram både som förslag och som rekommendationer. Några av frågorna förorsakade en hel del diskussioner och jag är mycket nöjd med de beslut som fattades. Mera detaljer kommer att vara tillgängliga när mötesprotokollet blir färdigställt.

Jag gratulerar alla Storlogens Delegater, Före Detta Storlogetjänstemän, Före Detta Stormästare, Hedersledamöter och Tjänstemän för deras arbete och omtanke med Vasaarbetet under mötet. Jag vill också gratulera de nyligen valda och omvalda Tjänstemännen: Vice Stormästare Art Bjorkner, Storlogesekreterare Joan Graham, Storlogekassör Keith Hanlon, Vice Storlogesekreterare Lee-Ann Anderson Hurtubise, medlemmar av styrelsen: Östra Regionen John Hanright, Midwest Regionen Bruce Elfvin, Västra Regionen Jeff Klein, Sverige Ulf Alderlöf och Kanada Fae Doty. Jag är säker på att vi kommer att ha produktiva fyra år, där vi kommer att möta många nya utmaningar. Enligt min mening är vår högsta prioritet hotet mot Vasa från ett snabbt

krympande medlemskap. Jag ber er alla att fundera på vår framtid. Är vi redo att göra ändringar för Orderns Bästa? Inte bara i ord utan också i handling! Vårt sätt att hålla våra möten, speciellt i USA och Kanada, måste ändras om vi vill att Vasa skall frodas. Jag kommer ha mer att säga om detta i framtida meddelanden till er alla.

Jag har valt mottot "Vasa Stolt". Jag tror att det på lämpligt sätt speglar vad vi alla har att göra. Prata Vasa, Prata Vasa, Prata Vasa! Vi behöver rekrytera nya medlemmar när helst vi kan. Att göra människor medvetna om Vasa är det första steget till att få medlemmar. Jag utmanar er alla, både par och enskilda, att vara fadder till en ny medlem under de kommande fyra åren. En är allt jag begär!

Sekreterare, glöm inte att meddela mig om alla födelsedagar, 75 år och i 5-års steg därefter, och jämväl alla 50-års medlemskap och igen i 5-års steg därefter. Jag vill mycket gärna skicka en hälsning.

Under de senaste fyra åren har jag besökt många distriktsmöten och ofta hört att vi måste modernisera vår hemsida. Därför frågar jag om vi har en webbdesigner inom Vasa som kan vara intresserad av att utforma en ny webbplats och integrera den med vår nya webbaserade databas. Den första uppgiften skulle vara att skriva en specifikation i samarbete med våra Database Designer och vår Database Director. Vi måste också hitta någon att arbeta med våra nuvarande Web Master med avsikt att ta över denna funktion i framtiden. Om du är intresserad eller vet någon medlem som kan vara intresserad av någon av dessa positioner, kontakta mig gärna eller låt mig få veta vem jag kan kontakta.

**I SANNING OCH ENIGHET,  
TORE  
STORMÄSTARE**



*Above/Ovan: Some of the visiting Swedes visiting Statue of Liberty / Några av de besökande svenskarna besöker Frihetsgudinnan.*

*Top / Överst: A large group of visitors from our Swedish lodges at the Grand Lodge Convention / En stor grupp besökare från våra svenska loger under Storlogemötet.*

*Left / Till vänster: Newly elected members of the Executive Board of the Vasa Order of America, standing L-R: Jack Hanright, Lee-Ann Hurtubise, Keith Hanlon, Joan Graham, Tore Kellgren (new Grand Master), Art Bjorkner (vice GM), Bruce Elfvin, Jeff Klein, Fae Doty, Ulf Alderlöf. Seated are the outgoing Sten Hult, Gail Olsson, past GM Bill Lundquist, Wayne Pierson, Doreen Nyroos.*

## Do you have a question for the Grand Lodge?

Ever wonder why or how or when...? Send your questions about anything Vasa-related to **vasajlg@aol.com** and then watch for the FAQ Column in The Vasa Star.

# GRAND LODGE NEWS



Grand Lodge Executive Board 2014-2018 / Standing (from left): John Hanright, Bruce Elfvin, Jeff Klein, Fae Doty, Ulf Alderlöf  
Sitting (from left): Lee-Ann Hurtubise, Joan Graham, Tore Kellgren, Art Bjorkner, Keith Hanlon

Lee-Ann Hurtubise, DL Rhode Island #3. Representing Vasa members in the various regions are members of the Executive Board for the Eastern Region: Jack Hanright from DL New Jersey #6; Midwest Region: Bruce Elfvin from DL Pennsylvania #9; Western Region: Jeff Klein from DL Pacific Northwest #13; Canada: Fae Doty from DL Alberta #18; and Sweden: Ulf Alderlöf from DL Södra Sverige #20.

The motions considered at the meeting were sent to every local lodge secretary. Major restructuring of the finances of the Grand Lodge was presented with motions by the GL Executive Board and these motions were unanimously approved by the delegates. More details of motions approved by the delegates will appear next issue in the Highlights. In the meantime, if you would like information on specific motions, feel free to contact me (vasajlg@aol.com or 510-526-5512) and I'll be happy to share any information with you.

The most rewarding part of gathering at the Grand Lodge Convention was renewing friendships from years past, so many dear friends from all over Vasaland that we see only every four years. The chairman of the host committee and DL New York #4 District Master Carl Geffken was surprised by the announcement by DL #19 Cultural Leader Charlotte Börgesson that she had researched Carl's ancestors in Sweden and discovered that he had a cousin (unknown to him) in the room. Who could be Carl's cousin? It was Charlotte herself, a second or third cousin, once removed, who was Carl's cousin. Needless to say, a happy reunion ensued.

The next Grand Lodge Convention will be held in the San Francisco, California area in 2018. I hope you will make plans to attend.

SUBMITTED BY JOANIE GRAHAM  
GRAND SECRETARY

## Summary of Grand Lodge Meeting

The full cycle of an amazing Grand Lodge term has now been completed with the Grand Lodge meeting in New York. The 2010-2014 term under Grand Master Bill Lundquist was one of rebuilding and restructuring the finances of the Grand Lodge. We are now well on our way to complete recovery and the final work begins with

the 2014-2018 term under the expert guidance and leadership of Grand Master Tore Kellgren.

More complete details of the meeting will appear in the Highlights from the Grand Lodge Convention in the Fall/Nov 30th issue of The Vasa Star, but here are a few items to share:

The new Grand Lodge Executive Board is made up of an excellent team of Vasa members: Grand Master Tore Kellgren, DL Golden Gate #12; Vice Grand Master Art Bjorkner, DL New Jersey #6; Grand Secretary Joanie Graham, DL Golden Gate #12; Grand Treasurer Keith Hanlon, DL Golden Gate #12; Vice Grand Secretary

## In Memory of Lennart Petersson

Lennart Petersson, PGM, PDM, PC, HLM was born in Sweden in 1933. He died peacefully at age 80 after several victories against cancer. Lennart came to Canada in 1956 to visit family but decided to stay and joined Skandia No. 549 the same year. He served two separate terms as Skandia's chairman. He was also a charter member and chairman of Red Deer No. 733.

Lennart served District Lodge Alberta No. 18 in a variety of roles ranging from delegate to district master. His service to the Grand Lodge was also exemplary, first as Grand Lodge deputy, then executive board member for Canada, and later as vice grand master and grand master from 1998-2002. He went on to serve as president of Vasa Archives from 2002-2010.

Lennart was recognized by the Grand Lodge for his work in organizing bike tours for Vasa youth from Canada, the United States and Sweden in the early 1990s. He also received the Grand Lodge Distinguished Service medal. He was honored with Hederskorp No. 37 by LL Uddevalla 638.

Lennart was also involved in many other

Swedish and Scandinavian organizations. He served as president for the Swedish Club North Star, the Scandinavian Studies Association and the Scandinavian Businessmen's Club. He received many awards including the City of Edmonton Achievement Award for Community Service. Despite his extensive community service he also found time to build a second cabin at Vasa Park in his "retirement."

Lennart is survived by his wife of 55 years, Joan Petersson (PC Skandia 549), daughter Sandra Petersson (DM Alberta 18) and son-in-law Tim Lambert (treasurer Skandia 549), granddaughter Linnea Petersson (too young to join), brother Jan-Erik Petersson (honorary member Skandia 549), sister Ann Sara Liljebadh (treasurer DL Northern Sweden 19) and their families, and many close, life-long friends. Lennart clearly instilled the value of Vasa both within his immediate family and with all who met him.



## Till Lennart Petersson minne

Lennart Petersson, FDSM, FDDM, FDO, HM, föddes i Sverige 1933. Han avled vid 80 års ålder efter flera segrar mot cancer. Lennart reste till Kanada i 1956 för att besöka släktingar. Han bestämde sig för att stanna och blev medlem i LL Skandia Nr 549 samma år. Han var Skandias ordförande under flera terminer. Han var också chartermedlem och ordförande i LL Red Deer Nr 733.

Lennart var medlem av Distriktlodge Alberta nr 18 med flera olika uppdrag från Delegat till Distriktsmästare. Av Distriktet blev han även vald till Delegat vid Storlogemötet 1974. Storlogen valde Lennart som Storlogedeputerad, sedan till Medlem av Storlogens Exekutiva Råd, och senare som Vice Stormästare och Stormästare 1998-2002. Han fortsatte som president för Vasaarkivet i Bishop Hill under åren 2002-2010.

Lennart erkändes av Storlogen för sitt arbete med att organisera cykelturer för Vasa ungdomar från Kanada, USA och Sverige i början av 1990-talet. Han tilldelades Storlogens Distinguished Service

Emblem för enastående aktiva insatser för Vasa Orden av Amerika. Han hedrades också som Hederskorp nr 37 av LL Uddevalla Nr 638.

Lennart var aktiv i många andra svenska och skandinaviska organisationer. Han var president för Svenska Klubben Nordstjärnan (Riksföreningen Sverige Kontakt), Scandinavian Studies Association och för Scandinavian Businessmen's Club. Han fick många utmärkelser, inklusive staden Edmonton's Achievement Award for Community service. Trots sitt engagemang i samhällsfrågor fann han också tid till många resor och även till att bygga en ny stuga vid Vasaparken under sin tid som "pensionär".

Lennart efterlämnar sin fru, sedan 55 år, Joan Petersson (FDO i LL Skandia Nr 549); dottern Sandra Petersson (DM Alberta Nr 18) och mågen Tim Lambert (kassör LL Skandia Nr 549 och barnbarnet Linnea Petersson; brodern Jan-Erik Petersson (Hedersmedlem i LL Skandia Nr 549), system Ann-Sara Liljebadh (kassör i DL Norra Sverige Nr 19) och deras familjer; samt många nära vänner. Lennart framhöll tydligt värdet av Vasa Orden både inom sin närmaste familj och till alla som mötte honom.

SUBMITTED BY SANDRA PETERSSON

# WINNERS OF THE 2014 SCHOLARSHIPS

Mr. Tore Kellgren, Vice Grand Master and Chairman of the Grand Lodge Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the winners of this year's College or Vocational School Scholarship Awards.



**ABIGAIL OGRENZ**  
Nordik Folk Lodge No. 761  
DL Lake Michigan No. 8

**Winner of the Pennsylvania #9 Grand Lodge Scholarship – \$1,000**

Abigail is currently enrolled at DePaul University, where she studies Theater Management with a minor in American Sign Language (ASL). After graduating she intends to open and run a theater focusing on making theater more accessible to underserved communities. With her minor in ASL, she hopes to be able to produce theater plays performed entirely in ASL.

Abigail has been a member of Nordik Folk Lodge No 761 since 2009 and was a member of a Vasa Children's Club since the age of four, first Solstralen and later Nordikids. She still performs with Nordikids. Abigail is an active Vasa member and attends the District Convention every year.



**ASHLEY LeBLANC**  
Linde Lodge No. 492  
DL Lake Michigan No. 8

**Winner of a Grand Lodge Scholarship – \$1,000**

Ashley is currently enrolled at Valparaiso University, Valparaiso IN where she studies Engineering. She is majoring in Electrical Engineering with a minor in Mechanical Engineering. After graduating she plans to work in the field of automation or assistive technology for handicapped people. Ashley has been a Vasa member since 2009 and was a member of the Skansen Children's Club for six year. In her Lodge she has been serving as the Financial Secretary and Membership person for the last three years, and was the Chairman for the Planning Committee for the District Convention in 2013.



**JOY-MARIE BRUSENBACK**  
Norden Lodge No. 684  
DL Golden Gate No. 12

**Winner of a Grand Lodge Scholarship – \$1,000**

Joy-Marie is currently enrolled at California State University, Fresno CA working on her major in Psychology and fulfilling pre-medical school requirements. After graduating she plans to continue her studies at a medical school with an eye on doing her studies either in Sweden or in California. After receiving her MD she would like to start a private practice as a pediatrician. Joy-Marie has been a Vasa member since 2009. The last three summers Joy-Marie spent as a counselor at a Christian Camp and for one year she also worked as a rafting guide at Kings River.



**KAITLIN WESTLUND**  
Nordik Folk Lodge No. 761  
DL Lake Michigan No. 8

**Winner of a Grand Lodge Scholarship – \$1,000**

Kaitlin is currently enrolled at Indiana University, Kelly School of Business in Bloomington, Indiana, where she studies Business Economics and Public Policy as well as International Business. After graduating she intends to seek a job as a business analyst. She also wants to continue her work in microfinance, helping those in need around the globe. Kaitlin has been a Vasa member since 2006 and was a member of the Nordikids Children's Club for 10 year. In her Lodge she has been serving on the Membership Committee for the last four years and was a delegate to the District Convention in 2013.



**KYLA NYROOS**  
Skandia Lodge No. 549  
DL Alberta No. 18

**Winner of the Michigan #8 Grand Lodge Scholarship – \$1,000**

Kyla graduated this spring from Archbishop McDonald High School in Edmonton Alberta Canada. She has been accepted to Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) where she will complete a two year Technical Degree and will follow that with a four year Engineering Program at University of Alberta.

Kyla has been a Vasa member since 2010 and before that participated in Children's Camp and Lucia Pageants. The last couple of years she worked at the Children's Camp as a Dish Washer.



**RACHEL HANNIGAN**  
Nordik Lodge No. 761  
DL Lake Michigan No. 8

**Winner of Lodge Viking #730 Grand Lodge Scholarship – \$1,000**

Rachel is currently enrolled at Purdue University, West Lafayette IN working on her major in Electrical and Computer Engineering Technology with a minor in Organizational Leadership and Supervision. After graduating with her Bachelor of Science Degree she plans to work as an Electrical Engineer Technologist and also pursue a Master's Degree in Bio-Medical Engineering. Rachel has been a Vasa member since 2006 and served as Chaplain in her Lodge for four years and Master of Ceremonies for one year after that. She also served as a delegate at the District Convention for two years representing Nordikids Children's group.



**MIRIAM McCAULEY**  
Astor Lodge No. 215  
DL Pacific Northwest No. 13

**Winner of a Grand Lodge Scholarship – \$1,000**

Miriam is graduated from Concordia University in Portland, Oregon, with a degree in Psychology. She is planning to continue her studies in a Professional Counseling graduate program at Lewis and Clark College. Miriam is a member of Astor Lodge #215 in Astoria OR. She has been an active member in Vasa since 2009. She was serving as Miss Sweden in 2010 and has been helping out at many different events in the Vasa community.



**SARA THOFSON**  
Runeberg Lodge No. 137  
DL Minnesota No. 7

**Winner of Lodge Omaha #330 Grand Lodge Scholarship – \$1,000**

Sara is currently enrolled at Concordia College, Moorhead MN working on her major in Communication. After graduating with her Bachelor's Degree she plans to work as an advertising agent or an event planner. Sara has been a Vasa member since 2009 and was a member of Vasa Junior Folk Dancers for 15 years. One highlight of her membership in the Vasa Juniors was when she was selected to help welcome Their Majesties King Carl XVI Gustav and Queen Silvia at their visit to Minnesota in October 2012.

**The Grand Lodge is pleased to announce that four Sjölund Language Camp awards were given out this year.**  
Bertha Kalm Sjölund Language Camp Awards to:

**STEVEN LESKO**, Lodge Nordik Folk #761  
District Lodge Lake Michigan #8

**HARRISON OGRETZ**, Lodge Nordik Folk #761  
District Lodge Lake Michigan #8

**JENNIFER PEARSON**, Lodge Nordik Folk #761  
District Lodge Lake Michigan #8

**SARA MELENDEZ**, Lodge Karl XII  
District Lodge Connecticut #1

## MEMBER BIO – Tore L. Kellgren



### Grand Master

Tore was born in Göteborg, located on the west coast of Sweden. He grew up in the suburb of Mölnlycke, about seven miles outside of town. He served five years in the Swedish army as a electronics technician where he received much of his education and early technical experience. It was dur-

ing that time he met his wife to be, Birgitta. They married on September 24, 1966 in her home town of Karlsborg. They moved to the US, Tore in 1969 and Birgitta with first born daughter Ulrika joining him in 1970. A second daughter, Carina, was born a couple of years later. Early in 1977 they discovered Vasa and joined Svea Lodge #348 in San Jose CA on July 15, that year. Many years later they also joined Lindbergh Lodge #494 in Palo Alto CA as dual members.

In Svea Lodge Tore and Birgitta quickly found the Lodge to be their new family away from Sweden. Tore has held a number of different positions in the Lodge, including Outer Guard, Master of Ceremonies, Trustee and three years as Treasurer. During that time he became interested in the membership record keeping and, as he has significant computer skills, developed a

computer based database with members' names, addresses and with a way of easily keeping track of dues and other data. Two years later he became the Editor of Svea Lodge's Newsletter and in 1996 also District Lodge Golden Gate #12's database manager and Newsletter Editor. He held this position until 2001 when he was elected Vice District Master and then District Master the following year. Grand Master Ulf Brynjestad appointed him Grand Lodge Deputy in April of 2003, on the day he was installed as Past District Master. From 2000 to 2005 he and Birgitta were also the publishers of the District Program Book and roster, further developing the database for that purpose. At the District Convention in 2010 Tore and Birgitta were both awarded Honorary Life Membership in District Lodge Golden Gate #12.

At the Grand Lodge convention in San Diego in 2006 Tore, attending as delegate for District Lodge Golden Gate #12, was elected Member of the Executive Board representing the Western Region and appointed Membership Chairman by Grand Master Rolf Bergman. At the Grand Lodge Convention in 2010 in Washington DC he was elected Vice Grand Master and appointed Chairman of the Scholarship Committee by Grand Master Bill Lundquist.

Tore has been the designer of the Vasa Education Stamps starting in 2006, many of them using his own photo for the image. As member of the Vasa National Archives he directed, filmed, edited and produced the new Vasa Archives Video, which was shown for the first time at the Grand Lodge Convention in Rye. It will soon be available to all Lodges and Vasa members.



### SINIKKA ROINILA

Linne Lodge No. 153  
DL Lake Michigan No. 8

### Winner of Lodge Viking #730 Grand Lodge Scholarship – \$1,000

Sinikka is currently enrolled at Indiana University of Bloomington, where she is working on her major in Journalism. After graduating she plans to work as a photo-journalist and a designer in the magazine industry. Sinikka has been a Vasa member since 2010 and has been an active member of her Lodge. She was a Ambassador to the District Convention in 2011. Sinikka is also very active in her Church including taking photos at some events.

### Family Tree Släktutredningar

I am a member of the Vasa Order in Sweden and an expert in Swedish genealogy. Over the years I have helped many Vasa members to find their roots in Sweden. If you want my help to find your Swedish ancestors, please email me for further information.

swedengen@telia.com

## The Grand Lodge 2015 Scholarship and Essay Contest

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

**A limited number of \$1,000 COLLEGE or VOCATIONAL SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS:** awarded to students to continue education at an institution of higher learning

*Applications will be available on the Vasa website ([www.vasaorder.com](http://www.vasaorder.com)) from September 15, 2014 to January 15, 2015.*

**To be eligible, all the following items must be postmarked no later than February 15, 2015 to be considered.**

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

**Please put in one envelope if possible.**

### Suggested Essay Subjects:

1. The role youth can and should play in Vasa.
2. My vision of the future of Vasa.
3. My local lodge and the community.
4. What Vasa means to me.
5. My Swedish Heritage.

**AWARDS ARE PAYABLE TO** the institution at which the student is enrolled or accepted for enrollment. The \$1,000 College or Vocational School Scholarship, student needs to be enrolled in an accredited vocational school or institution of higher learning taking no less than six (6) credits per semester or eight (8) credits per quarter in the academic year immediately following the award. In extraordinary circumstances, on petition to the Grand Lodge Scholarship Committee, payment may be postponed for a period not to exceed two years.

**Additional information will be published in next issue of Vasa Star and on the Vasa website.**

**For questions email: [vgm@vasaorder.org](mailto:vgm@vasaorder.org)**

# DISTRICT LODGE NEWS

## Connecticut No. 1 Glad Påsk from Vasa Park

DEAR VASA BROTHERS AND SISTERS,  
Sorry if you missed the Breakfast and Egg hunt at the park. Early morning had a chill when District Master Joe O'Leary opened the doors and started the stoves. Maryann O'Leary and Lisa Starks began mixing the pancake batter and got the sausage cooking for that hungry group of Swedes that would soon arrive.

The Bunny arrived early to scatter eggs on the trail, and volunteers helped enhance and decorate the Bunny Trail. But the children would have to wait, breakfast first. Gary Steinmiller stepped in to fill time with ball and bat. Young Dan whacked that ball, and other children came along and joined the game. Surely this is what our founders had in mind for this park many years ago.

Everyone gathered at the tables for grace, a delicious breakfast and talk of memories and news. Meriden Council Woman Kathy Battista visited us, en-

joyed breakfast and shared memories of growing up in South Meriden.

The day's Egg Hunt was about to begin, but first our Heritage Center Curator Lilian Nordstrom gathered the children for a talk about Påsk in Sweden. Everyone leaned in to hear of the Påsk witches and decorated birch branches (påskris) with colored feathers and eggs. Then the hunt began! The children were thorough in their search for the candy filled eggs and a couple Golden Eggs with special prizes. Oh, those baskets were filled.

The day's treasure, a thanks to our founders and their vision. We will gather here as family, friends and community to continue their hope that we remember their beloved Sverige.

SEE YOU AT THE PARK SOON!  
SUBMITTED BY ART OGOROSKI, PARK BOARD CHAIRMAN



Officers for 2014-2015: (front) Gene Kiesel, Nancy Hult, Edward Hultgren, Susan Cleveland, Michael Pearson Sr., John Loula, Linda Tylk and Paula Stopka; (back) Tim Ogrentz, Iva Lynn, Eric Swanson, Joella Hultgren, Robert Merrill, Steve Westlund, James Pelzman and David Runstrom.

## Lake Michigan No. 8

Siljan-Mora-Tuna 134 hosted the 106th DL Lake Michigan No. 8 Convention, May 30-June 1, 2014, in Burr Ridge, Illinois.

Cultural Leader Tim Ogrentz created a display of Scandinavian games with audio-visual exhibits, hands-on games, Viking artifacts compliments of VDM Michael Pearson, Kubb and more. Local lodges received a wooden Kubb game, and Viking Lecture Series DVDs were available.

GL Youth Director Lynda Smith presented district college scholarships of \$1,750 to: Rachel Hannigan, Nordik Folk #761; Ashley LeBlanc, Linde #492; Abigail Ogrentz, Nordik Folk #761; Emily Pearson, Nordik Folk #761; Sinikka Roinila, Linné #153; and, Kaitlin Westlund, Nordik Folk #761. A Sjölund Language Camp Scholarship was awarded to Melissa Pearson, Nordikids #208.

VGM Tore Kellgren and GM Bill Lundquist presented GL Scholarships of \$1,000 to Rachel Hannigan, Ashley LeBlanc, Abigail Ogrentz, Sinikka Roinila and Kaitlin Westlund, and GL Sjölund Language

Camp Awards to Steven Lesko, Harry Ogrentz and Jennifer Pearson, all members of Nordik Folk #761 / Nordikids #208.

VDM Michael Pearson presented the Distinguished Service Award to ADS Joella Hultgren, Valthornet editor since 2007. Chaplain Inez Törnblom and Marvin Anderson presided over the memorial service remembering members who died during 2013. PDM Christine Kilstrom directed the choir; Gunnard Swanson accompanied on piano. Memorial candles were lit by Julia LeKander and Marge Gruel.

District Officers for 2014-2015 are: DM Susan Cleveland; VDM Michael Pearson; DS Nancy Hult; ADS Joella Hultgren; DT John Loula; DHFS Linda Tylk; EBM Gene Kiesel; EBM Paula Stopka; DSCYC Lynda Smith; DCL Timothy Ogrentz; Chaplain Marvin Anderson; MC David Runstrom; Inner Guard James Pelzman; Outer Guard Steve Westlund; Auditors Robert Merrill, Herbert Smith, and Eric Swanson; Historian Iva Lynn; PDM Edward Hultgren.



Aquavit tasting in progress

## Golden Gate No. 12

The annual District Convention took place at Sparks, Nevada, on April 25-27, 2014. The delegates elected Paul Jvert of Jenny Lind Lodge No. 388 as the new District Master for 2014-2015. They also tackled issues relating to contributions to the Archives and planning details for the Sweden Day celebration at the rustic resort Sveadal in Morgan Hill, California on May 30-June 1, 2014.

Then they faced a difficult cultural challenge: an aquavit contest which required a lot of work and concentration! District Cultural Leader Scott Schulkin of Fylgia Lodge No. 119 in San Francisco organized a tasting. Svea Lodge No. 348 in San Jose walked away with all the tasting awards. Congratulations

to Victoria Fedor-Thurman who earned the titles for both Best Presentation and Best Taste, and to Catherine Lipscomb who was recognized for Best Authentic Taste.

SUBMITTED BY JUDY HARLESS



## Christmas Greetings

Send your lodge or personal Christmas greetings to  
vasaeditor@gmail.com

**'Vasa Star'**

Box 8193  
Pittsburgh PA 15217  
One inch greeting - \$10  
Larger greetings - \$25

**No later than September 30**



**Scandinavian Festival-Nordic Council**  
October 4, 2014 10am - 6pm

At Ronald Reagan Elementary School  
4225 S Calloun Rd, New Berlin WI 53151  
Inviting your friends & family to join us in arts & crafts, sales booths, ethnic foods, entertainment, genealogy, children activities and more.

Adults \$8, Children 4-12 \$2  
Call 262-366-9152 for additional information.

# LOCAL LODGE NEWS



## Pacific Southwest No. 15

DLPSW No 15 is alive and well. The first event for 2014 was the annual Convention. The past District Master's Club put a lot of time and effort into hosting the 100th Convention, which was held at the very end of February at the Hilton Hotel in Woodland Hills, California. GM Bill Lundquist and his wife Sheila attended the festivities as did several other PGMs. Saturday's banquet was extra festive; after all you turn 100 only once!

Most of the actual meeting time was spent on electing new officers. DM Ann Hellgren of Mayflower Lodge No 445 left her office to VDM Russell Almquist of Glenn T. Seaborg Lodge No.719. New VDM is Bertil Winther of Golden Valley Lodge No. 616. Congratulations to all new officers from District Master to Guards.

The annual Memorial was held on Sunday followed by the happy luncheon when the Vi-king and Vi-queen were introduced, several District scholarships were given out and winners of the host and the District lodge drawings were announced.

On March the 24th Skandia lodge No 247 generously lent its refurbished building to DCL Nel Solt and crew for a nice Easter luncheon with a little "witch" program made fun by Skandia's chairman Beau Stocking. Guests from 8 different lodges attended and also made påskris and some took part in a witch parade.

May the 4th was the date for the yearly Scandinavian Spring Picnic in Vasa Park. Many thanks to EBMs Mary Wright and Jon Vikander who put together a beautiful event on a beautiful day which drew several hundred Vasa member and friends. The day was referred to as Vasa Member appreciation day with free entrance, lunch and drink to members. Thank you to Vasa Park Association which sponsored a good part of the event. There was a car show with Saabs and Volvos enjoyed by many. The pool was open and there were quite a few fun things to occupy the youngsters. Slightly older folks seemed happy to enjoy each others company.

IN TRUTH AND UNITY,  
NEL SOLT, DISTR. PRESS REP.

## Tegner No. 109

SCOTIA, NY / Many activities marked our Albany, NY, area Tegner Lodge #109 second quarter, which culminated in our much loved Midsummer Festival and Smorgasbord in June.

The lodge celebrated its 107th anniversary in late April at the Stockade Restaurant in Schenectady, with 26 members attending.

May was quite active! Besides our monthly meeting when assistant cultural leader, Inger Capalbo, gave a wonderful talk on national parks and holidays in Sweden, we welcomed new member Dale Hedman of Schenectady, and also hosted our twice-yearly Swedish/American Pancake Breakfast at a local firehouse. More than 215 people lined up for over four hours to enjoy a delicious hot breakfast and shop our sales table of Scandinavian imports. The lodge's pancake breakfasts and sales table help fund

our two great festival dinners – Midsummer and Lucia.

This year's Midsummer on June 21 was a huge success with more than 55 people attending. Our chairman (and former Nobel dinner chef), Anders Faltskog, put out a tremendous spread of authentic Nordic cuisine guaranteed to delight, including caviar filled eggs, dill-cured salmon with mustard dill sauce, Swedish meatballs with lingonberries, and Jansson's Temptation. Our lodge loves good cooking! If you are interested in swapping recipes, email: [bjnaple@nycap.rr.com](mailto:bjnaple@nycap.rr.com).

SUBMITTED BY BARBARA NAPLE

Lodge Chairman Anders Faltskog and his Midsummer culinary creations.



## Diana Birger Jarl No. 3 Anders Zorn Exhibit

NEW HAVEN, CT / On April 26, 2014, participants visited the National Academy in New York City to attend an exhibit of some of the works of the renowned Swedish artist Anders Zorn. The works exemplify the many phases of Zorn's career, from his carvings and sculpture, to his water colors, oils and etchings. He was prolific. His works took us to foreign lands which included London, Paris, Spain, Turkey, Morocco and the United States. He was a prominent portrait painter, and while visiting the United States he painted or did etchings of presidents Grover Cleveland, Theodore Roosevelt and William H. Taft.

What was striking in the portraits we saw was his ability to capture the personality of

the individual he was painting.

Throughout his career Zorn maintained a home in Sweden that he regularly returned to in the summer. In later years he lived in Mora, Dalarna. There he focused his work on the local people with works such as "Midsummer Dance."

After attending the Anders Zorn Exhibit the group visited the American Scandinavian Foundation and had a late lunch at their Smorgas Chef Restaurant. The restaurant offers a variety of Scandinavian foods, gift shop and a gallery of photographs by Scandinavian photographers entitled "Darkness and Light."

SUBMITTED BY PAUL LJUNGGREN





## Fylgia No. 119

SAN FRANCISCO, CA / What a busy summer. After the aquavit infusion event, we had to have a tasting event. Then came the second annual Aquavit Competition at Sweden Day at Sveadal on June 7. The competition was fierce with 27 entries, and the tasting was intense. The three categories were Best Presentation, Best Tasting, and Best Traditional. With every sample that was tried, the voting got more difficult. But in the end there were two victors: Catherine Lipscomb won Best Traditional, and Victoria Fedor Thurman walked away with the double award of Best Presentation and Best Tasting. The prizes were caps with their winning categories embroidered on them.

Fylgia hosted three tables at Midsommer on June 21 at Sveadal. The sense of community and celebration were so apparent as people mingled, raised the maypole, danced, witnessed the crowning of the queens, and ate. We are looking forward to a cooking class at Nordic House, and of course the annual Crayfest on August 16 at Nordic House is an occasion to join together with friends. In September we have a cultural talk about women throughout time in Swedish literature.

SUBMITTED BY DIANNE DAHLBERG



At the recent Memorial Service at the Thule Lodge #127, chaplain Diane Shaw and mistress of ceremonies Donna Johnson place carnations on the altar in memory of deceased members.

## Thule No. 127

JAMESTOWN/BEMUS POINT, NY / Summer activities and events for Thule Lodge #127 include the famous Friday night fish dinners. For Father's Day, the annual herring breakfast was served. Thule Lodge's July Scandinavian Festival is a wonderful gathering of food, fellowship, dancing, crafts, demonstrations and much music. Our cultural leader, Fanchon Fuller, keeps all up to date on events, and always speaks of some Swedish heritage events, such as the recent Midsommer.

The annual Memorial Service was held at the lodge in late May to honor the members we lost in the last year. The service was conducted by past district master Edwin Sandberg and financial secretary Donna Sandberg. Memorial music was played by assistant mistress of ceremony Bernice

Veights. Carnations were placed on the altar by chaplain Diane Shaw, and mistress of ceremonies Donna Johnson.

At the end of June, summer birthdays were recognized for lodge members, with a special Swedish decorated cake provided by vice chairman Susan W. Sipos. A happy time was enjoyed by all. Thule Lodge is now into its 107th year since it was first organized, and continues to preserve the Swedish heritage through events and activities.

Everyone at Thule Lodge #127 wish you a happy summer season. We always welcome visitors to our lodge when you are in our area. God dag!

SUBMITTED BY JOHN SIPOS  
LODGE HISTORIAN



Nani Löfström

and growth of their baby birds, and then root for them to be courageous enough to leave the nest. A most unusual movie.

In April, our new member, Nani Löfström, showed us pictures and told us about the history of the Sami people. She is of Southern Sami and Swedish descent. She wore her traditional Sami dress and showed some Sami jewelry she had made.

In May, another new member, Eric Olson, told us about his search for his Swedish roots. He had copies of Swedish church records, census reports, items from old newspapers, pictures of relatives he found in Sweden. It was very interesting and informative, especially for those wanting to do genealogical research.

Many members went to Sveadal on May 31 to celebrate Sweden Day and an even larger crowd was expected for Midsommer. Linnea Spencer, granddaughter of the late Tegnér members, Dorinda and Walter Nyland, was the Midsummer Queen.

SUBMITTED BY ANN TENNIS

## Tegnér No. 149

OAKLAND, CA / Tegnér Lodge #149 has had some very interesting meetings. In March, our cultural leaders, Kathryn Hughes and Richard Orlando, showed the Swedish movie, *The Kestrel's Eye*. It gave us the opportunity to see a pair of kestrels go through the hatching, feeding,



Makers of the woolen gnomes at the May meeting.

## Drott No. 168

POTOMAC, MD / Drott Lodge members continue to take advantage of the many benefits of living in the Washington DC Metro area where opportunities for cultural enrichment abound. These include programs held at the House of Sweden, the building sited on the banks of the Potomac River that houses the Embassy of Sweden, the Embassy of Iceland, and an Event Center where public programs and exhibitions are held.

On a lovely early April Sunday, a group had a private tour of the current exhibitions

and got to go to the rooftop for the sweeping panoramic views. Others participated in environmental programs or attended Nordic Jazz evenings; some enjoyed an incredible concert in June by soprano Christina Nilsson, winner of the 2014 Jenny Lind Scholarship.

For Midsommar we joined with the American Scandinavian Association (representing all five Nordic countries), the Swedish Women's Educational Association, and the Norwegian Society for a typical com-

memoration with all the usual activities and fellowship, and a fabulous pot-luck dinner.

A highlight of the spring was the afternoon in May spent making woolen tomtes with fiber artist Karin Richardson of Gaithersburg, MD. Each gnome was unique. Karin carefully instructed (and often helped) us as we crafted our creations using Scandinavian and locally produced fibers.

SUBMITTED BY CAROL WHITLEY



Members (from left to right) Marlyn Ryall, Roy Ylitalo, Will Rottman and Gary Johnson offered their opinions during the meeting.

## Brahe No. 245

ROCKFORD, IL / Our meeting on Sunday, May 25, 2014 was mainly about the future of our VASA Park.

Given our annual park expenses, between \$14K-\$15K for insurance, property taxes and maintenance, and since income for lodge rental is meager because no outside activity is permitted after 11 p.m., it was the unanimous decision of all 18 voting members in attendance that we cannot continue to operate VASA Park with our aging members!

A committee was formed consisting of seven VASA members who will obtain real estate appraisals and report progress to participating members. We will continue to meet at VASA Park, but if the park gets sold, VASA No. 245 Lodge will meet regularly somewhere else in the Rockford area.

The next meeting of VASA Brahe Lodge #245 was to be a potluck on June 22 at VASA Park.

SUBMITTED BY DENNIS G. EKSTEN



(From left to right) District Cultural Leader Tim Ogrentz, Linnea Ogrentz, and Irene and Jim Nelson.

## SVEA No. 253

INDIANAPOLIS, IN / April 6 was the Pea Soup and Pancake Supper. Glenn Sweitzer presented "Sweden's Coffee Cultures: Home vs. Work" and a meal of pea soup, ham, rye bread, cheese and Swedish pancakes was served, accompanied by live Swedish music! Tack to Jean Bang, Alec, Faye and John Bevelhimer, David Duff, Janet Jegen, Eija Vesterqvist, Ingrid Wiebke, Ulla Williams and Carin Young for producing the dinner.

Brenda Miller arranged "Tour Scandinavia in an Afternoon" on April 19. Booths displayed information and Nordic artifacts. Nordic refreshments were served; Dans Norden performed Scandinavian dances to music by Scandilocity.

Cultural Leader Tim Ogrentz and his wife Linnea visited May 4. Jim Nelson

presented "Scandinavian Settlements in Indiana" — there were substantial Scandinavian settlements in at least 16 Indiana counties. Years ago, one newspaper printed the frontpage news in English and Swedish. Swedish immigrants built pump organs and worked in the Studebaker Wagon Works in South Bend.

The Midsommar celebration on June 22 included decorating the majstång, a Grand March and dancing. Fun and games included Kubb and a candy-filled Swedish piñata for the kids. Everyone brought food to share, greenery and flowers for decorations, colorful tablecloths and candles. Ulla Williams coordinated the event.

SUBMITTED BY JOELLA HULTGREN



(From left to right) Alice Iverson, Kim Dowaliby, Marissa Hagglund, Miriam Saucedo, and Jeff Klein.

## Astor No. 215

ASTORIA, OR / The members of Astor Lodge No. 215 met at the home of Gerry Swenson to picnic and celebrate their scholarship winners. The weather was beautiful and the food was good. District Master Jeff Klein attended and presented Kim Dowaliby, Marissa Hagglund and Miriam (McCauley) Saucedo their \$750 district scholarships. Past District Master Alice Iverson presented Miriam with a \$1000 Grand Lodge scholarship. Astor Lodge is so proud of these three young women for achieving these awards.

SUBMITTED BY GERRY SWENSON & TERRY ARNALL



## Monitor No. 218

SACRAMENTO, CA / Our summer began with a meeting and a potluck smorgasbord. Following the meeting, our cultural leader Barry Moore coaxed about 14 couples to come up and learn a folk dance around the well decorated majstung that was set up in the hall just for this purpose. Some of our newest members volunteered to help with it all.

Attendees were encouraged to come in costume which made for a festive evening. With this encouraging activity we will be looking forward to fall when we resume our regular meetings.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, ARLIE VEIS, MONITOR LODGE NO. 218 VSC.



Ole and Lena (Rollie Krause and Roger Anderson) from Bishop Hill Lodge.

## Nobel No. 288 100th Anniversary

MOLINE, IL / Nobel Lodge No. 288 celebrated its 100th anniversary on April 5 in Moline with a wonderful crowd of friends and Vasa members. We had a delicious Swedish smorgasbord that was catered by a local grocery store and a beautiful cake. Ole and Lena (Rollie Krause and Roger Anderson from Bishop Hill Lodge) showed up and brought us a multitude of laughs. Lilly Setterdahl had transcribed many minutes in Swedish that were located at the Archives and shared some of this history with us. We were happy to have Nancy and Sten Hult and Sue and Tom Cleveland and their children

join us, too. All the warm wishes from the other lodges and the District Lodge were very appreciated as we go forth continuing our culture. Many membership pins were given out with Elayne Hogan receiving a certificate for her 70-year membership. The lodge celebrated our true anniversary date on February 22 with a dinner.

To celebrate the Vasa Archives' 40th Anniversary we donated \$2,000 for three display cases. Our lodge appreciates all that the Archives do for our lodges and members.

SUBMITTED BY LINDA LOOTENS



(Top) All's quiet during the salmon feast at the June 13th Dinner. / (Middle) Lingonberries playing their light jazz. / (Right) Bill and secretary Sandi Hersh sport matching shirts.

## Lindbergh No. 494

LOS ALTOS, CA / On April 11 the hall was filled with live jazz from our own "Lingonberries" — with Hans on the trumpet, Johan on guitar, Jack playing the clarinet and Ross on drums. After the meeting we enjoyed a delicious Swedish potluck. "Happy Birthday" was sung in English and Swedish to all April celebrations.

Our official Lodge Wine Tasters selected a lovely rich barrel of a 2010 vintage Zinfandel. Then on May 4 an experienced group of Lindbergh Lodgers bottled the barrel at Thomas Kruse winery in Gilroy. The skilled labor was followed by a potluck picnic including wine, of course.

On May 9, we celebrated Mother's Day, as always with the men cooking. Martin, Dave, Lars and TJ created magnificent meat and seafood smörgåstårter to the great enjoyment of all! We learned things about Sweden, answering a quiz presented



by Susanne Omander. Three new members were initiated: Ross Blaufarb, Jenny and Will Posch.

More than 50 members and guests celebrated Midsommar on June 13 with a luscious salmon dinner. With generous beverages and snacks, a delicious variety of food, and friendly Swedish patrons, Lindbergh Lodge's monthly Friday evening social/supper is the best restaurant in Los Altos.

SUBMITTED BY BETSY NILSON  
PHOTOGRAPHED BY TORE KELLGREN



## Linnea No. 504

PETALUMA, CA / Ten students from Borås, Sweden (near Gothenburg) attended our Scandinavian Dinner in April. Each year students studying entrepreneurship at the high school in Borås attend Santa Rosa Junior College for five weeks, living with local host families. After they leave Sonoma County, they travel the west coast for two weeks before returning home for graduation.

Midsummer was full of great food, music, decorating and raising a maypole, dancing, making floral head wreaths and celebrating the longest day of the year. One myth is that if young people pick flowers at Midsummer they will dream of their future spouse. Along with the many members in attendance were guests from Leksand, Sweden. It was a perfect day!

Gun Janson, who was a Linnea Lodge member for 32 years, passed away in June. She was very active in the group and will be greatly missed.

SUBMITTED BY LINDA OLSON PEARL

## Bishop Hill No. 683

BISHOP HILL, IL / The Midsommar celebration was held on June 21 in Bishop Hill Park. Decorating the maypole started at 4 p.m. Ernie Sandquist played the accordion while many people helped put greens and flowers on the maypole.

The Midsommar Honorary Queen for 2014 was Anna Nilsson, from Hjorted, a town in the Kalmar region of Sweden. Anna is interested in history, enjoys dancing and has been in Swedish folk dancing groups.

She works in human resources.

Anna led the procession of 90 people to the Colony School where she and her sister led the dances around the maypole with the help of Ernie's accordion music. Små grodorna (little frogs), Karusellen (the carousel) and Vi Äre Musikanter (we are musicians) were some of the dances we enjoyed. Refreshments were served in the Colony School. What a great time we had!!



## Norden No. 684

KINGSBURG, CA / The Kingsburg Swedish Festival, on May 15-17, was a great success. They served pea soup and pancakes, and crafts were sold on the main street. On the 16th there was a Swedish smorgasbord

served in the park with folk dancing and a costume parade.

(Above) Monica Shiple, Elizabeth Powell, Carole Sell, Kathryn Lack and Donna Moore decorate the Maypole that was carried in the parade.



The lodge's original charter is shown here with (left to right) Marybeth Culverhouse, chaplain; Janet Oleson, treasurer; Linda Tjernlund, chairman; Erma Gorman, secretary; and Darlene Kiessel, vice-chairman.

## Joe Harbor No. 534

ST. JOSEPH, MI / To celebrate its 85th anniversary, 27 members and guests of Joe Harbor Lodge #534 enjoyed dinner at Papa Vino's in St. Joseph. Chairman Linda Tjernlund began with a warm welcome followed by all reciting the Swedish dinner prayer. Members enjoyed telling stories of days gone by and viewed pictures and various artifacts related to the lodge's history. The original charter was dated May 4, 1929, as

33 persons of Swedish descent gathered and signed the VASA Order of America Charter for the Joe Harbor Lodge #534 in Benton Harbor. The lodge remains active today in southwest Michigan and meets at Saron Lutheran Church in St. Joseph on the third Tuesday of the month at 3:30 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY DENNIS LUNDGREN



## Vinland No. 703

CAPE COD, MA / Vice District Master Linda Boylan presented the schedule of Midsummer events on June 22 at SAC Park at our March meeting in Dennis. A Scandinavian Trivia Contest and a Bake & Preserves Walk followed our April meeting.

High school student, Emma Brimdyr, who is a daughter, niece, granddaughter and great-granddaughter of lodge members, narrated a presentation after our May meeting. Summer and winter trips to Sweden from a teenager's viewpoint focused on family members, downhill skiing for miles without chairlift lines, abundant wildberries, playground amusements, old Malmo farmhouses

and beautiful natural vistas.

More than 50 members, relatives and guests observed Midsummer on June 21. Kelsey Lotti, a former scholarship winner and Norwich University student, shared her inspirational trip to Costa Rica where she taught basketball skills to children living in contrasting economic conditions. Together we enjoyed picnic lunches, Scandinavian tunes played by George Hedlund and Sonja Westerback on accordion, dancing around our floral Maypole, and our annual family photo.

SUBMITTED BY DOROTHY ANN-ELLNER KEAN / PHOTOS BY DEBORAH SOHOEL



## Glenn T. Seaborg No. 719

LAGUNA WOODS, CA / There were 40,000 people lining the parade route, 5,000 people walking in the parade, 120 entries, 500 horses and roughly 500,000 viewing the parade on television. The online edition of the Orange County Register showed Glenn T. Seaborg members and banner as photo no. 6. What great publicity!

For publicity and to attract new members to join our lodge, members of the Glenn T. Seaborg Lodge walked in the Swallow's Day Parade in San Juan Capistrano. This is the 56th year of this parade and is shown multiple times on our cable television station and attended by thousands.

It is the largest non-motorized parade in the United States and is part of a month-long celebration in San Juan Capistrano. Britt Almquist, age 8, waved a blue and yellow wand as she walked back and forth in front of our banner attracting lots of applause. Other members in the parade were Anna Lena Perumean, Nancy Kingston, Russell and Karin Almquist, Sandi Weaver and Kevin Luft. Next year we all plan to wear Swedish national costumes and folk dance the entire route.

*If your lodge would like a similar banner, cost is roughly \$55 with shipping for 2' x 6.5' size. As a courtesy for fellow lodges, Nancy Kingston will substitute the name of your lodge on the banner. nkingston@cox.net.*

## Nordikfolk No. 761

MUNSTER, IN / Summer is finally here and we are anticipating our Midsummer Festival at Chelberg Farm. Each year we are invited back to share in the celebration at the Indiana Dunes National Park. Our Nordikids wear their customs and participate with songs and dances around the Maypole. After a long cold winter this is much appreciated.

All who attended the convention this year had a good time. Several of our young people were honored with scholarships, both for college and Swedish Camp.

Our Springfest was smaller this year but still a success. The children did a great job as usual with singing and dancing. The older students continue to grow in their ability to perform with many young members who entertain us with their enthusiasm and cute antics.

We received three new members this year and feel excited that we have adults and children who will continue the good work of the Order.

Keep the family of Lynda (our director and youth director for the region) and Herb Smith in your prayers. Their daughter Lynnea who leads our children in music



## Calmare Nyckel No. 628

### Sverige-Amerika Dagen

Söndag den 8 juni genomförde, för 64:e gången, Vasaorden av Amerikas lokallogge Calmare Nyckel nr 628 Sverige-Amerika dagen. Dagen inleddes i Kalmar slotts slottskyrka med traditionsenlig gudstjänst. Festligheterna fortsatte sedan i Gröna salen på slottet.

Kalmar läns landshövding Stefan Carlsson inledningstalade på engelska. Högtidstalet hölls av Canadas ambassadör i Sverige Kenneth Macartney, som tillsammans med sin hustru var inbjudna hedersgäster. Ambassadören blandade svenska och engelska i sitt tal, och berättade att han lärt sig svenska som artonåring, då han varit utbytesstudent i Falun.

I fanparaden ingick den svenska, amerikanska, kanadensiska och Vasaorden av Amerikas fana förd av logesystrar klädda i hembygdsdräkter. Logens ordförande Britt-Marie Lindeblad, presenterade på rim symboliken för resp. lands fana kopplat till utvandringen. Nationalsångerna liksom Vasasången framfördes till musik av Calmar Brazz.

Kalmar folkdanslag framförde tre danser "Sommarvals," "Stockholms schottis" och "Anitas hambo" till musik av Kalmar spelmanslag. Calmar Brazz avslutade sedan med "You raise me up," "Ton Eriks visa" och "Waltz 2" av Dmitri Shostakovich.

Med fanor och folkdanslag i täten tågade sedan gäster och publik till Krusenstiernska gården, där det bjöds på kaffe och ostkaka. Underhållningen fortsatte med musik och dans av tidigare aktörer. För 33:e gången i följd var vår hedersmedlem Berndt Sundberg dagens moderator.



is fighting hard to battle cancer and Herb was hospitalized after the convention for pneumonia and a leg infection. They are a family who have given much for the success of Vasa.

SUBMITTED BY JEAN OGRENTZ

# Svenska Språkhörnan – The Swedish Language Corner

## INTRODUCTION TO SWEDISH – CHAPTER 7 DOING AND BEING – PART 1

This is a very comprehensive chapter, which has been divided up in several parts. This is the first installment and the following parts will be published in future issues of the Vasa Star:

### Reflexive verbs

Verb groups:

- Group 1 (-ar verbs)
- Group 2 (-er verbs)
- Group 3 (-r verbs)
- Group 4 (irregular verbs)

Please remember that you can download the whole course or study it online at <http://www2.hhs.se/isa/swedish/default.htm>, where you can also listen to the sentences.

### WHAT IS A VERB?

How to learn the Swedish verbs:

### The Swedish verb forms

- The imperative
- The infinitive
- The present tense
- The past
- The supine and the past participle
- The future tense

### Passive and reflexive verbs

- Passive verbs
- Reflexive verbs

### The verb groups

Note on the verbs selected as examples

- Group 1 (-ar verbs)
- Group 2 A and 2 B (-er verbs)
- Group 3 (-r verbs)
- Group 4 (irregular verbs)

### WHAT IS A VERB?

You have already met a few verbs in the previous chapters. Verbs are “doing-or-being words”, words that show what is happening or what someone/something is or does: “I am”, “It was raining”, “They screamed”.

English, in contrast to Swedish, in some cases has a separate ending if it is a ‘he’, ‘she’, or ‘it’ doing something: “I sing” (“jag sjunger”), but “she sings” (“hon sjunger”). Instead of inflecting the verb, that is modifying it through a change of vowels or through various endings or other ways, these two languages mainly use “helping” (auxiliary) verbs to show the exact meaning of the verb:

I speak. I will speak. I have spoken  
Jag talar. Jag ska tala. Jag har talat.

### The Swedish verb groups

Verbs are traditionally divided into groups, based on the time aspect, the ‘tense’, of the verb. In the sentence “I spoke”, the word ‘spoke’ is a past form of the verb ‘speak’, while “I will have spoken” points to an action that will have been completed sometime in the future. (Please note that not all forms of a verb carry this temporal meaning.)

The Swedish verb system is somewhat more complex than the English. Depending on which ending a verb takes in some tenses, it is referred to one of four groups. The fourth group consists of irregular verbs, of which many are very common.

### How to learn the Swedish verbs

To learn all or almost all possible variants of a Swedish verb you should in theory memorize five forms: the infinitive, the present, the past, the supine, and the past participle. There is an easier and more effective and entertaining way of learning the verb forms, though: By reading Swedish texts, newspaper articles, comic strips, and novels written in an everyday language you will soon meet all the common verbs – they are actually not that many – in a meaningful context, you will see their function in different sentences, how they are used in idiomatic phrases, and you will not have to spend time on the numerous verb forms that theoretically exist but are rarely used. The first pages of such a book in Swedish may naturally take some time to tackle, but it will not be long before you will be able to recognize and understand an amazingly large number of words. With a basic knowledge of the verb system in Swedish it will be even easier.

### Swedish verb forms: The imperative

The imperative expresses a command or an exhortation, that is you tell someone to do something: ‘Be quiet!’, ‘Come here!’, ‘Run!’. The imperative is the basic form of the verb in both English and Swedish. English uses this basic form also for the infinitive (see below), whereas the Swedish imperative is a unique form and therefore should be learned separately.

### Swedish verb forms: The infinitive

The infinitive is a ‘timeless’ form of the verb, the form given in the dictionaries. It is formed by adding an *-a* to the imperative (the main exception to this rule is when the basic form already ends in an *-a*; in such case no further ending is added). It is often used together with the word ‘att’, which usually has the same function as the English ‘to’ when it is combined with an infinitive:

tt våra eller [att] inte våra, det är frågan.  
To be or not [to] be, that is the question.

### Difference in use of the infinitive

In some cases English prefers or requires a verb with the ending *-ing* (e.g. after prepositions, that is “direction/position” words like ‘on’, ‘under’, ‘with’, ‘to’), where Swedish would use the infinitive:

I'm looking forward to [here used as a preposition]  
going to Stockholm.

Jag ser fram emot att resa till Stockholm.  
I look forward towards to go/travel to Stockholm.

He has problems (with) getting up in the mornings.  
Han har svårt att kliva upp på morgnarna.  
He has difficulty to step up on the mornings.

### Swedish verb forms: The present tense

A verb in the present tense is sometimes a bit carelessly described as referring to an action taking place now, but should more accurately be seen as showing an continuous action or state or a series of actions that is not completed, or something which someone usually do: “I play football” will most likely mean that you sometimes play football, or that you can or know how to play football, not necessarily that you are playing football at this very moment. To show that something is happening right now, English,

by using an auxiliary verb and by adding the ending *-ing* to the main verb, has a special “progressive” form: “I am playing football”. In Swedish there is strictly speaking only one form for the present that you will have to pay attention to, however, a form that almost always end in an *-r*.

The endings of the verbs in the present are, to be more specific:

- Group 1: *-ar* (or *-[a]r*, since the *a* technically speaking is a part of the stem of the verb and not the ending)
- Group 2A and 2B: *-er*
- Group 3: *-r*
- Group 4: The verbs in this often – but not always – end in *-er* and *-r* as well.

It may be comforting to know that the third group is quite small and only comprises a couple of the more frequent verbs.

### Progressive expressions

The ‘on-going’ (progressive) *-ing* form in English can in Swedish often be expressed by adding an additional verb:

Jag spelar fotboll. Jag håller på att spela fotboll.  
I play football. I hold on (i.e., I am busy with) to play football.

Vi tittar på tv. Vi sitter och tittar på tv. We watch on TV. We sit and watch on TV.

Han lägar mat. Han står och lägar mat. He cooks food. He stands and cooks food.

Hon sover. Hon ligger och sover. She sleeps/is asleep. She lies and sleeps.

This way of showing that the action is progressive can also be used in other tenses in Swedish.

### Swedish verb forms: The past

The past tense is used in different ways in different languages. In German, for instance, the perfect has assumed some of the function of the past (“Ich hab’ ihn gesehen” – “I saw him”). In Swiss German the past tense has been replaced entirely by the perfect. A Romance language like Spanish does not only focus on the time aspect of the verb when forming the past, but also on whether the action is seen as demarcated and completed (pretérito: “Grité” – “I shouted”) or not completed, alternatively repeated (imperfecto: “Gritaba” – “I was shouting”, “I shouted [several times]”, “I began to shout” etc.). In spoken French the old preterite (passé simple) has disappeared in favour of the passé composé (resembling the German perfect), while the imperfect tense has a similar usage as in Spanish. In spite of its close relationship to German, the Swedish uses the past tense just about the same way as English, however.

The past is formed by adding the ending *-de* or *-te* to the basic form (the imperative); the *-te* ending is used after any of the voiceless consonants p, t, k, and s. (Some irregular verbs form the past by changing their vowel instead.)

Jag arbetade [basic form: arbeta] hårt förra veckan. I worked/was working hard previous the week [i.e. last week].

Jag läste [basic form: läs] en ny bok varje dag under semestern. I read a new book every day during the vacation.

### Swedish verb forms: The supine and the past participle

- I have closed the door.
- The door is closed.

In these two sentences the word ‘closed’ is a form of the verb which in English is called the past participle. Combined with the auxiliary verb ‘have’ (as above) it forms the perfect tense, and with the same “help” verb in the past you have the past perfect (pluperfect) form: “I had closed the door.”

‘Perfect’ is derived from a Latin word for ‘complete(d), finished’, which fairly well describes the primary function of the perfect tense, namely to show that a certain action or state is completed in relation to present time. That sounds more complicated than it is. The pluperfect refers to an action or state that was completed in relation to an event in the past “The door was [past] closed; he had closed [pluperfect] the door.” The usage of the perfect and the pluperfect tenses is on the whole the same in English and Swedish.

Now, Swedish has actually two forms for the English past participle: The supine and the past participle.

### The supine

The supine, which is made by adding a *-t* to the basic form (the imperative), is always used after the auxiliary verb ‘have’:

Jag har stängt dörren. I have closed the door.

### The past participle

The past participle is composed by adding *-d*, *-t*, or *-dd* to the basic form (depending on the final letter). It is used like an adjective, and takes endings similar to the adjectives:

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| With an en word:           | Pósten är stängd idag.<br>The post office is closed today.                                 |
| With an ett word:          | Allt är stängt.<br>Everything is closed.   |
| With a word in the plural: | Till och med affärerna är stängda.<br>To and with (i.e. even) the shops/stores are closed. |
| After an identifying word: | Dörrarna är stängda.<br>The closed doors.  |

Note: Some verbs exist only in compound forms in the past participle, often with a preposition (a ‘direction’ word: *in, out, from, to* etc.) as a prefix. The meaning of the verb is then also many times changed. See the list below, where the prefixes have been put within square brackets for the sake of clarity.

## Family Tree Släktutredningar

I am a member of the Vasa Order in Sweden and an expert in Swedish genealogy. Over the years I have helped many Vasa members to find their roots in Sweden. If you want my help to find your Swedish ancestors, please email me for further information.

[swedengen@telia.com](mailto:swedengen@telia.com)

# 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, 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. Bruce Elfvin, Grand Lodge Membership Chairman  
2924 E. Overlook Road, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118 / elf4law@aol.com

## DL CONNECTICUT NO. 1

### Kronan Lodge #2

Stephanie Gail Lee  
Carol Elizabeth Skog

## DL MASSACHUSETTS NO. 2

### Nordic Lodge #611

Susan L. Wilkicki

### Birka Lodge #732

Gregory Eutimio Blomgren  
Gustave Eric Blomgren V  
John David Caves

## DL NEW YORK NO. 4

### Thule Lodge #127

Scott Ralph Axelson

## Olympic Lodge #235

Raymond Erik Dahlström  
Erika Susan Sloan

## Stenland Lodge #727

Gail Roberta Teitel

## DL NEW JERSEY NO. 6

### Arlington Lodge #62

Sylvia Ann Hunts  
Virginia Margoli  
Nancy Tuthill

## Vågen Lodge #588

Kimberly Ann Hanna  
Roy Neil Johnsen

## Dalahäst Lodge #742

Christine M. Williams

## DL LAKE MICHIGAN NO. 8

### Linné Lodge #153

Harvey John Holmes, Jr.

## Kronan Lodge #179

Margot Jansson Ward

## Bessemer Lodge #203

Derek A. Dinon  
Ruth Marie Lippert  
David William Nordin

## Austin Lodge #466

Dennis Marc Antkowiak

## DL PENNSYLVANIA NO. 9

### Nobel-Monitor Lodge #130

Sandra Sue Angstrom  
Wayne Raymond Angstrom

## Svea Lodge #296

Patricia A. Bellingham

## DL SUPERIOR NO. 10

### Framåt Lodge #463

Anne Murphy Schaaf  
David Nicholas Schaaf

## DL GOLDEN GATE NO. 12

### Balder Lodge #343

Michael Eugene Johnson

### Svea Lodge #348

Ashley Bengtson  
Peter Bengtsson  
Belinda Bright  
Roger C. Johnson

## Sveaborg Lodge #449

Betty Jane Davis  
Monika Olsen

## Norden Lodge #684

James L. Dehn  
Kenia Forlines  
Lee Forlines  
Tiffany Frances Johnson  
Orlando Sagastume

## Skogen Lodge #700

Karin Marie Johnson

## DL PACIFIC NORTHWEST NO. 13

### Astor Lodge #215

Megan Davis

## Skogsblomman Lodge #378

Barry Lee Levenberg  
Leiann A. Ronnestad

## DL PACIFIC SOUTHWEST NO. 15

### Nordic Lodge #15

Lynn Rostedt

## DL ARIZONA NO. 21

### Phoenix Lodge #677

Ida D. Lee

# IN MEMORIAM

**Memorial Notices** should be mailed with check or money order to The Vasa Star, PO Box 8193, Pittsburgh, PA 15217. Email: vasaeditor@gmail.com. The fee is \$8 for one column inch. Longer obituaries will be charged a flat fee of \$25.00. All notices must be typed and written in a format similar to what you see here. NO newspaper clippings.

If you submitted an Obituary and it is not listed here, please resubmit to be included in the following issue..

## ARIZONA

**JUNE AGUAYO** touched many lives with her cherished Scandinavian folk art. Her precious husband (Rafael) and son helped with years of art shows. June was an active member of Tucson VASA 691 for 25 years. She passed away June 28, 2014 at age 88.

**ANNA-BRITT HELLNER** was born in Sweden, raised in Massachusetts, and was an Arizona resident (and Tucson VASA 691 member) for 18 years. Her dear brother preceded her in death recently. Anna-Britt passed away at age 83.

**STEVE SWAN** (February 4, 1953 – December 27, 2013) was very proud of his Swedish heritage. He was an active (and greatly loved) member of Tucson VASA 691, a St. Olaf University graduate and avid Cubs fan. His celebration of Life Service took place at the Tucson Botanical Gardens.

**ETHEL NELSON VANIC** (August 18, 1914 – May 9, 2014) Ethel was born in Sweden, an enthusiastic Christian, longtime Tucson VASA 691 member, loving mother and talented singer. Her long life was celebrated at the Tucson Botanical Gardens.

## CALIFORNIA

**WANDA MAGNUSON NESE-WICH**, born in Chicago on April 30, 1914 to Swedish immigrant parents, passed away May 2, 2014 two days after her 100th birthday. A member of

Sierra Kronan Lodge #737 for over 12 years, she found her niche with the craft group supporting lodge efforts at the annual Scandinavian Festival. Cheerful and enthusiastic about life, she captivated everyone with her sense of humor, her resilient spirit and special way of honoring those she met. She will be dearly missed by her family and friends.

**HOWARD "NICK" NICKEL** passed away in Goleta, CA May 14, 2014 at the age of 86. He was born October 31, 1927 in Dayton, Ohio and joined North Star Lodge #106, October 3, 2006. He is survived by four sons.

**JEAN SHORE** passed away in Hawthorne, CA April 9, 2014 at the age of 88. She was born in Los Angeles, CA November 15, 1925 and joined North Star Lodge #106 April 6, 1999. She has served as assistant recording secretary for many years. She is survived by daughter Linnea Paul, son Kevin, three grandchildren – Graysen, Crystal and Cara – and her brother Jack.

**LILLY VICTORINE**, member of Balder Lodge #343, passed away in Fortuna CA on April 30, 2014. She was born in Grizzly Bluff (Ferndale) CA on December 11, 1928 and married Joseph Victorine in August 1948. She is survived by her sisters Betty Harper and Annie Westworth (also a member of Balder Lodge), seven children, 12 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. She will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

## ILLINOIS

**NEIL K. OLSON**, 81, passed away July 15, 2013 in St. Charles, IL. He was born on July 5, 1932. He was very proud of his Swedish heritage and was an active member of Viljan Lodge #349 for 25 years, having joined on Nov. 19, 1987. He is survived by his wife, Barbara and three children, Eric, Inger and Peter.

## MASSACHUSETTS

**FLORENCE SANDSTRAND** died on Easter Sunday, April 20, 2014 at age 89. Born in Sweden, she immigrated to Worcester, MA in 1926 and worked as a bookkeeper and sales clerk. She practiced daily journal writing. Florence was a member of Vinland Lodge of Cape Cod, #703 for 35 years. Predeceased by her husband Dick, she is survived by several great-nieces and great-nephews.

**RUNE BORGMAN** died May 11, 2014 at age 85. He was born June 7, 1928 in Valdmarsvik, Sweden. He was a veteran of the Swedish Merchant Marines and also the U.S. Army. Rune was a member of Vinland Lodge #703 for 15 years serving as vice chairman, chairman and auditor. He is survived by, his wife Marion, three children and four grandchildren.

**ELLEN (OHMAN) ENEMARK** passed away on April 24, 2014 at age 79. She was born November 17, 1934 in Wellesley, MA to Swedish parents. She resided in Duxbury, MA, Chatham, MA and Fort Myers, FL. Ellen was a member of Vinland Lodge #703 for 32 years. She is survived by her husband, Bob Enemark, and two daughters.

## NEW JERSEY

**ARNOLD "LES" SWENSEN**, age 77, of District #6, Lodge Vågen #588, passed away on April 25, 2014. Les was born in Brooklyn, NY and joined Lodge Vågen in 1961. He served as district master and lodge chairman for many years. Les and his wife Ingrid were known for their dancing at events held at Vasa Park in Budd Lake, NJ. He will be greatly missed by his family and lodge members.

## OHIO

**BURTON W. CARLSON**, age 97, beloved husband for 72 years of

Gunvor B. (nee Ericsson), passed away on June 30, 2014. He was the loving father of Burton W., Jr. (wife Carol), Ingrid B. Gotrich (deceased) (husband Lennart), and David L. (wife Susan). Devoted grandfather of Burton W., III, Amy D., Keith D., Douglas A., Britt Bevacqua, SFC John Hickman, and great-grandfather of nine. Cherished brother of the late Lennart. Burt was born January 15, 1917 and joined Nobel-Monitor Lodge #130 in Cleveland, OH, March 17, 1944. He was a LIFE member.

## OREGON

**CHRISTINA MERRYMAN** passed away Feb. 2, 2014 at the age of 100. Harriet Christina Eriksson was born April 25, 1913 in Norrköping, Sweden, came to Portland, OR in the late 1940s and married Harold Merryman in 1952. The two joined Nobel Lodge #184 in 1967 and later had dual membership in Harmony Lodge #472, both of Portland. Harold died in 1994, but Christina continued to be very active in Vasa and the Scandinavian community up until a few weeks before her death.

## PENNSYLVANIA

**MAY A. ODELL**, born May 28, 1918, died February 2, 2014 at age 95. She joined Oscars Borg Lodge #172, Philadelphia on March 10, 1967. During her nearly 47 years of membership, May served as chairperson of Trustees, Nominating Committee and Sick Committee, and as Vasa Star circulation manager. She was also a faithful helper in the kitchen. May's professional career included 49 years of employment as an executive secretary. She is survived by her nephews Jeffrey King (Claire) and Jonathan King (Sharon), niece Charlotte Silversteen, cousin Florence Evans, grandnieces Devan and Elyssa, and grandnephews Jeremy, Justin, Eric and Ryan. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ray Odell, and her

sister, Sonja King. "Aunt" May will be sorely missed by everyone who knew her.

**MARGIT I. RUDZINSKI** (nee Carlson), age 79, born November 20, 1933, died October 9, 2013, beloved wife of the late Boleslaus F. Rudzinski, Jr. Margit joined Oscars Borg Lodge #172, Philadelphia, PA February 20, 1987. As a faithful and active member, she served several terms as assistant mistress of ceremonies and historian. Margit cherished her Swedish heritage, and in earlier years, enjoyed folk dancing in costume. She is survived by her brother Walter Carlson (Sigrid), her daughters Margit Biedron (Walter), Lori Ackerman (Timothy), Julia Tiounoff (Mark) and Christina Panzera (Frank), and her grandchildren Walter, Ethan, Nathan, Rowan, Ben and Daniel. She always wore a cheerful smile, and her joyful laughter made everyone happier when sharing her company. She will be greatly missed by her loving family and many dear friends.

## TEXAS

**GEORGE R. ANDERSON** passed away March 28, 2014 at the age of 92. He was born November 19, 1921 in Owasso, Michigan. He joined Carl-Widen Lodge #743 in Austin, TX on January 27, 1997, and served as assistant chaplain, chaplain and trustee. He is survived by his wife Milly, four children, 10 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.

**JEAN QUIST SELLSTROM** passed away on May 17, 2014 at the age of 83. She was born July 2, 1930 at home in Austin, TX. She joined Carl Widen Lodge #743 in April, 1991 and served on the Membership Committee, Culture Committee, as an auditor and a trustee. Survived by husband Jim, daughter Elizabeth Cadwallader, sons David and Jonathon, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She was very proud of her Swedish heritage.

# LANGUAGE & CULTURE



Barbro Lindgren photographed at her Öland home. Photo: Stefan Tell/Astrid Lindgren memorial Award. / Herr Christopher O'Neill and H.R.H. Princess Madeleine of Sweden with H.R.H. Princess Leonore. Photo: Anna-Lena Ahlström/kungahuset.se / Anders Wejryd and Antje Jackelén. Photo: Sveriges Kristna Råd/Mikael Stjernberg.

## MY FINAL REPORT | STIG SALGEBACK

ON SOME SUMMER EVENTS IN SWEDEN

This is my final report as GLCD for Sweden. When these lines will be read I shall already have resigned from my four-year assignment that has been rewarding to me. The report is written at Midsummer time and deals with some important events in the old country.

Today is Midsummer Eve, one of the most revered holidays in Sweden, when people are on the move, particularly from the cities to the countryside in order to experience an old fashioned celebration. So much is known and written about Midsummer, so I am going to take on other matters. Other important events took place in June, too.

The world famous author of children's books, Astrid Lindgren, died in 2002. The following year The Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA) was introduced. It is the largest prize for children's literature in the world and is annually given to an author writing in this field.

This year it was for the first time awarded to a Swedish author, Barbro Lindgren (not related to Astrid Lindgren), who during a 50-year career has produced two or three books annually, most of them for children. The 12-member prize jury called her "a literary pioneer" and praised her adventurous use of language and the psychological nuance of writing. The ceremony took place at the Stockholm Concert Hall on June 2 with Crown Princess Victoria handing over the check and the diploma.

Less than a week later, on June 8, Princess Madeleine and her husband Chris O'Neill, had their daughter, Princess Leonore, baptized in Drottningholm Church, by retiring archbishop, Anders Wejryd. The church is part of the castle that is home to the Royal Couple, so Princess Madeleine grew up there. This christening ceremony occurred exactly one year after the parent's wedding in Stockholm and was mainly a family event, but was open to the public via television with millions of people watching. A recent poll shows that 80 percent of Swedes are in favor of monarchy.

The christening of Princess Leonore was the last official duty for Anders Wejryd, who on June 15 was replaced by Antje Jackelén,

the first female archbishop in Sweden. This very solemn ceremony took place in Uppsala Cathedral, the biggest church in Scandinavia, that was filled to capacity.

Antje Jackelén was born in Germany but came as a student to Sweden for theological studies in Uppsala. Later her studies were followed by dissertation in Lund. During the first years of the new millennium she was for a short time responsible for Europe within The Center for Theology and Natural Sciences in Berkeley, California. During the years 2001-2007 she was assistant professor at The Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago. From there she returned to Sweden for her appointment as bishop of the Diocese of Lund, which became the last step before her appointment to archbishop of Sweden.

Antje Jackelén is the 70th archbishop of Sweden; she was consecrated exactly 850 years after the first one, Stefan, in 1164. At the time, it took place in one of the first churches in Sweden, Old Uppsala Church. The cathedral in Uppsala was planned for 1260, but it took a long time to build and didn't come into use until 1435.

Since 2000, the Swedish Lutheran Church has not been a state (national) church. As a free church, though, the Swedish Lutheran Church still has 6.4 million members, making it one of the largest Lutheran churches in the world.

This year there are two general elections in Sweden. The first, on May 15, was the election to the European Parliament with very low turnout (as usual, less than 50 percent) due to limited interest for the EU. The second election comes in September and concerns the Swedish Parliament as well as all regions and communities in the country. That election is considered much more important, probably getting a 70-80 percent voter turnout. We will see.

Other matters to be observed are the 200-year period of peace for our nation and the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of WWI. We hope to have continuation of peace in Sweden as well as successful peace negotiations in the parts of the world with war and unrest.

Finally, my strong wish is that our order will carry on with its work for kinship, good

personal relations and cultural activities. This wish is particularly sent to my still unknown successor as GLCD.

IN TRUTH AND UNITY,  
STIG S. SALGEBACK  
GLCD SWEDEN  
STIG.SALGEBACK@TELIA.COM

## Min Sista Rapport

OM NÅGRA SOMMAR HÄNDELSER I SVERIGE

Detta är min sista rapport som SLKL för Sverige. När dessa rader kommer att läsas, har jag redan avgått från min uppgift, som har varit berikande för mig. Rapporten skrivs i midsommartid och kommer att handla om några viktiga händelser i det gamla landet.

I dag är det midsommarafton, en av de mest uppskattade helgdagsaftnarna i Sverige, när folk är i rörelse framför allt från städerna ut på landsbygden för att delta i den gamla typen av firande. Om detta är så mycket känt och skrivet, att jag fokuserar på andra saker. Under juni månad ägde några viktiga händelser rum.

Den världskända svenska barnboksförfattaren Astrid Lindgren dog 2002. Året därpå inrättades Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA). Det är det största priset i världen för barnlitteratur och utdelas årligen till en författare med detta område som specialitet. I år utdelades det för första gången till en svensk författare, Barbro Lindgren (inte släkt med Astrid Lindgren), som under en 50-årig karriär gett ut två eller tre böcker per år, de flesta för barn. 12-mannajury kallade henne "en litterär pionjär" och berömde hennes äventyrliga användning av språket och den psykologiska nyansen i skrivandet. Prisutdelningen ägde rum i Stockholms konserthus den 2 juni med kronprinsessan Victoria som överlämnare av priset och diplom.

Mindre än en vecka senare, den 8 juni, blev den nyfödda dottern (prinsessan Leonore) till prinsessan Madeleine och Mr. Chris O'Neill döpt i Drottningholms slottskyrka av vår avgående ärkebiskop, Anders Wejryd. Kyrkan är en del av slottet. Kungaparets bostad är en annan del, så prinsessan Madeleine växte upp där. Dopceremonin ägde rum exakt på dagen ett år efter föräldrarnas bröllop i Stockholm och var fr.a. en familjehögtid men samtidigt öppen för allmänheten genom TV-sändning med miljoner av tittare.

I en nyss genomförd gallupundersökning säger sig 80 % av svenskarna gilla monarkin.

Dopet av prinsessan Leonore var den sista officiella plikten för Anders Wejryd, som den 15 juni ersattes av Antje Jackelén, som därmed blev Sveriges första kvinnliga ärkebiskop. Denna mycket högtidliga ceremoni ägde rum i Uppsala domkyrka, den största kyrkan i Skandinavien, nu fylld till sista plats. Svenska folket kunde följa det hela i TV. Antje Jackelén föddes i Tyskland men kom som student tidigt till Sverige för teologiska studier i Uppsala. Dessa följdes längre fram av doktorsdisputation i Lund. Under första delen av det nya millenniet var hon Europansvarig för "Europe within The Center for Theology and Natural Sciences" i Berkely, Kalifornien. Under åren 2001-2007 tjänstgjorde hon som professor vid "The Lutheran School of Theology" i Chicago. Därifrån kallades hon 2007 till biskop i Lunds stift, som blev sista steget på vägen till utnämning som ärkebiskop.

Antje Jackelén är vår 70:e ärkebiskop och installerades 850 år efter den förste, som hette Stefan och installerades 1164. Den installationen ägde rum i en av de första svenska kyrkorna, Gamla Uppsala kyrka. Domkyrkan i Uppsala planerades redan 1260, men den tog lång tid att bygga och kom inte i bruk förrän 1435. Sedan år 2000 är den svenska lutherska kyrkan inte längre statskyrka. Som fri kyrka har den fortfarande 6,4 miljoner medlemmar och är därmed en av de största lutherska kyrkorna i världen.

Detta år blir det två allmänna val i Sverige. Det första ägde rum den 15 maj och var val till Europaparlamentet med som vanligt mycket lågt valdeltagande (<50%) beroende på det begränsade intresset för EU. Det andra kommer i september och gäller riksdagen, landstingen och alla kommunerna. Detta val är mycket viktigare och deltagandet är vanligtvis 70-80%. Vi får se.

Andra saker att observera är vår nu 200-åriga period av fred och 100-årsminnet av första världskrigets utbrott. Vi hoppas på fortsatt mångårig fred i Sverige och framgångsrika fredsförhandlingar i de delar av världen, där krig och oroligheter finns.

Slutligen har jag en stark önskan, att vår orden kommer att fortsätta sitt arbete för vänskap, goda personliga relationer och kulturaktiviteter. Denna önskan går särskilt till min än så länge okända efterträdare som SLKL.