



THE VASA STAR

VASASTJÄRNAN

FALL 2022

Publication of *The Vasa Order of America*



The Gävle Goat is a massive version of a traditional Swedish Christmas symbol, the straw goat, built annually some months before Christmas but with a history of being burnt down by saboteurs.

MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND MASTER

DEAR VASA BROTHERS AND SISTERS, Summer wrapped up in grand style when after two years absence due to COVID, Scanfest returned in New Jersey with over 4000 attendees. The event was hosted at New



Jersey Vasa Park. Performers from Sweden traveled to join us, and it was the largest Scandinavian event on the eastern seaboard. The weather was perfect and the Scanfest organization did a fantastic job. Now the trees are a blaze in color and the air is becoming crisp and cool. Fall is a very busy time for us. The lodges are planning for our

traditional events and lodge meetings are in full swing. In September Inger and I visited with Pacific Northwest District 13 for their convention. It was held in Bellevue, Washington. It was very nice to be with friends we haven't seen in a long time and to meet so many new members. The first business meeting was held at the Embassy

Suites Hotel. District Master Jeff Klein conducted a very successful meeting. The Saturday banquet was held in the ballroom at Vasa Park on Lake Sammamish. The ballroom is spectacular, and we all enjoyed a wonderful meal with great music and dancing. The second day meeting was also held / continued on p4

National Archive News

Upcoming events at the Vasa National Archives and a reminder about remembering the archives as you plan for the future / p3

Grand Lodge News

One of our scholarship recipients writes about how Swedish music and folkdance influenced her time with Vasa ... / p4

Christmas greetings

From the Vasa universe—from sea to shining sea, across an ocean and from two continents / p3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11

Local Lodge News

Fall activities are almost back to normal in many parts of Vasa—here's to catching up with friends all over the U.S. / p11

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Greetings everyone



DEAR READERS, I hope the autumn season has been bountiful for you. Like many, I've been enjoying Vasa and other organizations moving

to in person and hybrid meetings. In October, I had the good fortune to travel to Thailand for a series of in person work related tuna meetings. The first week of work was productive, and Thailand was beautiful. Unfortunately, on the eighth day I came down with COVID and spent the next nine days quarantined in a hotel room.

Room service was impeccable, but Thailand is an ocean away from the West Coast of the USA, where I, and my family, reside. The experience felt very much like what our Vasa ancestors must have felt after moving to the New World. If they were ill or in need, who would they be able to turn to? Our lodges served, and still serve, the dual function of providing a social environment and medical support in times of emergency. In my

case, in Thailand, my hotel and meals were covered by the company I work for. In Vasa, our members have access to the Old Age and Benefit Fund, plus the emotional and immediate support from meals and care packages dropped off by friends.

As a heritage organization, we often look to our roots, but my experience with COVID reminded me that we can take that heritage of caring for our members and extend it even farther. We can do that by continuing to hold meetings and events that include a web component. Being alone and ill in a hotel room for nine days was quite an unpleasant experience. Having online visits with friends and family made the time a lot more bearable. An online meeting can be a lifeline of fellowship to a person unable to attend regular meetings. Being a member of Vasa is fun, but I am also thankful for the outreach and caring we show one another. In that spirit, I wish each of you a happy and healthy holiday season. God Jul och Gott Nytt År!

IN TRUTH AND UNITY,
CHRISTA SVENSSON

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS



Sy Kerstin Karlsson och Br Ingmar Hansson tillsammans med sina faddrar. / p15



District Master Jon Vikander at DL 15 PSW installed by Bertil Winther GL Deputy / p9



Happy Birthday, JoAnn Thoreen - Lodge Runeberg No. 137 / p12



"Jordbruksdagar," Ag-Days with Lodge Bishop Hill—Lodge Linde No. 492 / p13

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For our next issue:

By February 1

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

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

DONATE to the Education & Scholarship Funds

Send your donations to: Vasa Order of America, Marlene Patient, Grand Secretary, 337 River St., Leicester, MA 01524

ARCHIVES NEWS

A message from the president of Vasa National Archives

MY DEAR FRIENDS AND FELLOW VASA MEMBERS,

This is an update from me regarding the Vasa National Archives and Bishop Hill. The annual Jordbruksdagarna/Agricultural Days in September in Bishop Hill was a successful event. Thank you to the Vasa members who went to the village to participate. A special thank you to Vice Grand Master, Tom Cleveland and Archive Secretary, Karen Snowberg for attending and helping cover time at the Archives while Archivist, Kathy Cuff taught children the art of butter making. October 14-16 was Bargain Hunter Weekend in the village and Make and Take Dala Horse painting will take place at the Archives from Nov. 25 - Dec. 11 2022's main display, Early Christianity in Sweden will be coming to an end

and a new display will be featured in 2023. The Archives will be closed to visitors for 3 months after Christmas for the change of displays, program and project planning, and reorganizing and filing of new archival material and other donations.

Sadly, a local lodge on the south side of Chicago has voted to dissolve. Siljan-Mora-Tuna No. 134 was comprised of the following local lodges: Tuna No. 134 initiated in 1908, Mora No. 183 initiated in 1922, Siljan No. 151 initiated in 1908, Framat No. 133 initiated 1908 and Concord No. 572 initiated in 1931. The final lodge with its rich Vasa history lost many members who were very active in the local lodge and Lake Michigan No. 8 District Lodge. Members of Siljan-Mora-Tuna (S-M-T) donated to

the Vasa National Archives as well as to Vasa Park in Elgin, IL over the years and made very generous donations even as it dissolved. I am personally appreciative for all their support as well as sad to see that vibrant local lodge with so much rich history come to a close. Thank you to my dear friends Sten Hult and his late wife, Nancy who were leaders in S-M-T and for all their personal support for Bill and me over many decades.

The annual Julgran Fundraiser will be coming to you soon. Please give generously in support of this important fundraiser. The many programs and projects at the Archives are made possible through fundraisers such as the Julgran and Heritage projects. Look for a flyer in that mailing giving you instructions should you choose to

remember the Vasa National Archives in your estate planning. If you make plans to share your accumulated wealth in that manner please let me know now so I can thank you.

Please contact me if you have questions and I will give you direction or get you into contact with someone else who can answer your questions. Happy Thanksgiving and the beginning of Advent.

IN TRUTH AND UNITY,
SHEILA LUNDQUIST
PRESIDENT VASA NATIONAL ARCHIVES



Greetings from the Vasa National Archives

GREETINGS VASA SISTERS AND BROTHERS, I hope this finds everyone doing well and enjoying your local fall weather. Here the trees are in their full color and we're still getting some nice weather while Bishop Hill prepares for the annual Julmarknad and Lucia weekends. As we've been organizing local lodge collections, we thought a reminder about what items the VNA wants to collect would be in order. We only want records that are no longer useful to the lodge. If a lodge has multiple

copies of the same thing, we want 4 copies at most. Some lodges have items that are universal, for example song cards, and we don't want any more of those unless your lodge did something special to yours. Feel free to call or email if you have any questions about what you are thinking of sending. Lodges are welcome to scan and email the materials to save on shipping costs. Minutes, flyers, newsletters, membership applications and cards, pictures, news articles, and Financial Secretary

records provide wonderful information on activities and members. Many lodges had auxiliary groups that would meet to do crafts together or perform lodge tasks. Reports show how the lodge changed from year to year. Lodge histories provide wonderful information that may not have survived changing secretaries or time.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Vasa National Archive at 309-927-3898 or VasaArchivist@gmail.com.

IN TRUTH AND UNITY,
KATHY CUFF, MANAGER-ARCHIVIST
VASA NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Upcoming events

Make and Take Dala Horses (Nov. 25- Dec 11, 10 - 4, while supplies last) During the holiday weekends, paint stations will be set up in the Vasa National Archive for painters to decorate their own wooden Dala Horse. Participants are welcome to leave their Dala horses at the archive to dry while shopping in Bishop Hill. Paint, brushes, and smocks provided. During the week, the paint stations will not be available, but you can take Dala Horse kits home to paint. Each kit includes 3 colors of paint, 2 brushes, and a Dala Horse. The Dala Horses are available for a \$5 donation per horse whether you paint here or at home. Painters can call or email to reserve horses to ensure supply. Call 309-927-3898 or email VasaArchivist@gmail.com for more information.

Closing Reception (Dec. 9-10, 6-9 pm, during Lucia Nights) Come say goodbye to the Vasa exhibits on Early Christianity in Sweden and Documenting Swedish America: A Setterdahl Family Tradition. This is also a final celebration of the 2022 season. Coffee and cookies may be available to visitors at the Vasa National Archives for the closing reception. Call 309-927-3898 or email VasaArchivist@gmail.com for more information.



GRAND LODGE NEWS

The Grand Master's Message (continued from page 1)



at Vasa Park and new officers were elected and installed for the ensuing term. At the very end of the month, I visited with Golden Gate District 12 in Sacramento. The meeting was held at the DoubleTree Hilton where the Grand Lodge convention took place

in 2018. Again, it seemed a long time due to COVID that I have seen many of those members and it was a delight to be back. District Master Ed Netzel presided over the meetings and did a fantastic job. On Saturday Night during the banquet, I was honored to present Sister Vonne Thurman with her 50-year membership pin. Congratulations Vonne! The Grand Lodge executive board has done a fine job of transitioning with the newly elected officers and are hard at work with our various committee assignments. Our Grand Lodge Constitution has been revised to reflect the items voted on and changed during the Grand Lodge Convention in Philadelphia. The revised constitution is available on our website. Vice Grand Master Tom Cleveland has posted the scholarship announcements and ap-

plication process on our website, and we encourage members to make your applications. During the last four-year term, The Vasa Order of America awarded 98 scholastic scholarships and 24 Sjolunden Language camp awards. As I reported in the summer edition, we have an impressive number of young members that have excelled in their educational pursuits. Please consider making a contribution to our educational program. It has been a valuable asset to many of these young members. The National Archives in Bishop Hill is busy with fall and winter planning as you will read in our Archives President's article. Our managing archivist, Kathy Cuff continues to do a great job. Please make a concerted effort to support the archives annual fundraising appeals. Our archives are a very

special part of the organization and I encourage you to visit and enjoy the facility and the lovely town of Bishop Hill. The Vasa Star is a vital source of communication for all of the membership. Our editor Christa Svensson and managing editor Liza Ekstrand do a fantastic job and our publisher Nordstjernan works closely with them to deliver a quality publication. Please remember to submit articles about the happenings at your local and district lodges. It's always a delight to read and see photos of members across our organization and the fun events we all enjoy. My very best wishes to each of you for a joyous and healthy holiday season.

JOHN HANRIGHT (JACK)
GRAND MASTER

Grand Lodge Scholarship Essay

by Annabel Johnson

How has traditional Swedish Music and Folkdance influenced your involvement with The Vasa Order?

Apart from my family, traditional Swedish Music and Folkdance have been the biggest influencing factor for my involvement in the The Vasa Order.

I first joined a Vasa-affiliated group when I was just four years old.

Up until then, Swedish culture had always been an integral part of my family. We made the traditional dishes and sweets, celebrated Santa Lucia, and of course my sisters and I had the American Girl doll Kirsten, who emigrated from Sweden, wore double braids and had her own Lucia gown.

We often went to the traditional Swedish Christmas services at the church where my grandparents first met in Chicago, and at least twice a year would head to Andersonville and eat at Anne Sathers for their fruit soup and cinnamon rolls. We would then head over to the Swedish museum, where there was a special exhibit that helped us pretend to be on a boat to America from Sweden.

These were special events for my family, but also just a part of ordinary life for a family of Scandinavian descent.

But it usually was just my family and extended family doing these things.

Then one day when we were in Chicago during the Christmas season, we saw many girls dressed in Lucia gowns and taking part in a Celebration in the city. And, in the crowd, we saw their families. How excited we were that there were others out there who loved to celebrate the [Swedish] culture just as much as us. When we got home, my mom searched for a group that we, too, could get involved in.

She found one - called Förgät-Mig-Ej - not far from our home meeting on Sunday afternoons. This group was a children's club, a part of the District 8 Lodge, and when we arrived, the kind and dedicated director welcomed us with open arms.

As we left, she gave us a CD of



Annabel Johnson
Viljan Lodge No. 349
DL Lake Michigan No. 8
Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500.00

Annabel attends University of Alabama Birmingham where she is studying Biomedical Engineering. She has earned Member of Honors College-UAB, Engineering Academy Member, is a member of Kappa Delta Sorority, Biomedical Engineering Society and named to the Dean's List. Annabel and her family have a long history of involvement in The Vasa Order of America. She joined Forgat Mig Ej Children's Club in 2008 where she learned traditional folk songs and dance. She also joined the Swedish American Children's Choir performing at nursing homes, midsummer celebrations and of course Lucia Festivals at Christmas time. She has been an active member in Viljan Lodge since 2018. Annabel's future plans are to pursue a master's degree in biomedical engineering and research a cure for Alzheimer's disease.

songs all in Norwegian and Swedish to learn. My mom popped it in the CD player in the car, and we played it the whole way home.

We were hooked. This was our CD of choice on any car ride. We would belt out Små grodorna any time we hopped in the car, and sing Swedish folk songs at the top of our lungs.

It didn't matter if the Super Bowl

was on or it was the first warm spring day when all of the neighbor kids were outside, that first year we made it a point no matter what to head to the Scandinavian Children's Club on Sunday afternoons.

This dedication to the group continued for years in our family - even when it dwindled to only five members at one point, we still were three



“... it is my intention to stay an active member for years and years to come so that none of this is lost for future generations”

song for them at a concert, it brought tears to their eyes.

As if that wasn't enough being a part of Förgät-Mig-Ej children's club, we soon joined a second group - The Swedish American Children's choir. This group also is funded in part by funds from the local Vasa lodge.

Each Friday, my mom, sisters and I would travel an hour each way after school to take part in this choir. We all loved the group and the wonderful director so much. We met the best of friends in this group. We grew up with them, - first as members of the Little Swedehearts choir, then on to the Sweden's Children and finally to the Swedesong Girls group when we entered high school.

While naturally shy, this group helped me come out of my shell when I performed. I loved to sing these songs for people at the retirement home, because they would get such

joy from them. When we sang the folk dances and danced at community events, I almost felt like a celebrity. It was such fun to do. We even went on two tours to Door County, Wisconsin with this group, taking our songs and dances on the road for others to enjoy.

These folk songs and dances were such a large part of my childhood. So many afternoons were spent taking part in them, and being a part of the Vasa groups that made them happen.

Knowing that local lodges, and the Grand Lodge on the National level, help fund these groups and keep this joyfulness and heritage alive, is heartening to me. It makes me want to be involved. It makes me want to give my time and my dues. And it makes me want to do all I can to help ensure The Vasa Order and groups like these continue.

Although I am in college now, it is my intention to stay an active member for years and years to come so that none of this is lost for future generations, and that hopefully my children will be immersed in the songs and dance of the culture one day.

of them. Over the years, the membership grew and shrank, but we always remained a part.

We loved the songs, We loved the dances. We loved practicing for Lucia and midsommar, and performing at local nursing homes and parades.

Plus, it was something my two sisters and I could do together. We are each three years apart, and so most any other activities we did, we were separated.

But being part of groups focusing on Swedish folk music and dance was something we could do together.

It didn't matter if we were in different grades and different ages, we sang and danced together. And that itself kept us interested and invested in the Vasa Order group, because it brought us and others together. We sang trios and duets together. We danced the Fjaskern together - and always grabbed family members and friends from the audience for this Hurry Scurry Dance. And much

to my mom and mormor's delight, we learned and sang "Tryggare kan ingen vara" together in Swedish. That song was played at my grandparents' wedding, at my mother's baptism, and then by a famous Swedish fiddler at my parents' wedding and my baptism. And so when we sang that most meaningful

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God Jul och Gott Nytt År

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Vice Grand Master Tom Cleveland
Grand Secretary Marlene Patient
Grand Treasurer Kevin DeFeo
Vice Grand Secretary Lillian More

MEB-Eastern Region Deborah Larsson
MEB-Midwest Region Antonio Spargo
MEB-Western Region John Erickson
MEB-Sweden Olle Wickström
MEB-Canada Donna Englund



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

God Jul och Gott Nytt År
 önskar vi alla Vasasyskon
Maggie A Tehlin och Kurt Tehlin
 DM DL19, BCM LL Bråviken #751

Logen Höganäs # 634
önskar
GOD JUL OCH GOTT NYTT ÅR

GOD JUL OCH GOTT NYTT ÅR
 önskar
Claes & Karin Johansson
 DS, DL 20 Nybyggarna # 698

Alla Vasasyskon önskas en
God Jul och Gott Nytt VASA År
 Logen Skåne Nr 570

Logen Tomelilla # 631
 Önskar er alla en
GOD JUL OCH GOTT NYTT ÅR

God Jul och Gott Nytt År önskar
 Maureen & Göte Bengtsson
 Logen Småland # 618

VASA ORDER OF AMERICA
Local Lodge Stenland #727
 District Lodge New York #4



Promoting
 Swedish/Nordic
 Heritage
 and
 Culture

St. Thomas Lutheran Church
 Route 59 East, Central Nyack, NY
 Meetings 2nd Saturday of the month 1:00 PM
 Contact RasmussenTRE@gmail.com



God Jul och Gott Nytt År
 To All Our VASA friends
 from
 Linde Lodge No.492, Milwaukee WI

GOD JUL OCH GOTT NYTT ÅR
 önskar
Logen Calmare Nyckel # 628

God Jul och Gott Nytt År önskar
 Catherine & Göran
 Bringselius Nilsson
 DHM DL 20 / FDO LL Calmare
 Nyckel # 628

Logen Nybyggarna # 698
 Önskar alla vasasyskon
GOD JUL OCH GOTT NYTT ÅR

GOD JUL OCH GOTT NYTT ÅR
 önskar
Logen Kärnan # 608 Helsingborg

GOD JUL OCH GOTT NYTT ÅR Greetings
 From
District Lodge Arizona No. 21
 Gayle Anderson, District Master
 Mia Ackley, Vice District Master
 Lillian More, District Secretary
 Nancy Anderson, Assis. District Secretary
 June Ostrom, District Treasurer
 Anne Levig, District Cultural Leader

GOD JUL OCH GOTT NYTT ÅR
 Tillönskas alla vasasyskon
Berit och Hans Bogren
 LL Höganäs # 634

GOD JUL OCH GOTT NYTT ÅR!
 Thule No. 127
 Jamestown/Falconer, New York

En riktigt God Jul och Gott Nytt År
 önskas alla Vasavänner
Olle Wickström Marie Wickström
 MSLER Sverige MDER DL 20

God Jul och Gott Nytt År önskar
Ulf & Ingegerd Alderlöf
 DHM
 LL Skåne # 630

God Jul och Gott Nytt År önskar
 DL Södra Sverige Nr 20's
 Hedersmedlem Knut Rosenkvist
 Lokal loge Nr 634

GOD JUL OCH GOTT NYTT ÅR
 Bessemer
 Lodge 203
 Evergreen Park
 Illinois



DISTRICT LODGE NEWS

DL No. 7 Minnesota

Saturday June 25, 2022 we met for our District Convention which was put off for a couple of years. Gammelgården Museum of Scandia, MN graciously provided space for us that day. It was a perfect place to hold the convention, as the Museum was celebrating Midsommar and their 50th year. We were able to partake in the noon Smörgasbord (see photos) following our morning meeting. In the afternoon we enjoyed the program and our Vasa Jr. Dancers performed (see photo). We gathered for Fika in the afternoon. At that time members were recognized for their years of membership with pins and Jewels. Most significant were JoAnn Thoreen and George Carlson with 75 year memberships and Carolyn Spargo with 50 years. It was a very productive and enjoyable day.



Vasa Jr. Dancers perform traditional dances at the district convention.



We were able to partake in the noon Smörgåsbord at the Gammelgården Museum.

SUBMITTED BY EUNICE DIETRICH



IN MEMORIAM

Memorial Notices should be mailed with check or money order to The Vasa Star, PO Box 510632, New Berlin, WI 53151-0632. Email: vasaeditor@gmail.com. The fee is \$10=max. 40-45 words, and \$25= longer obituaries of 50-120 words. All notices must be typed and 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.

CANADA

GAIL SWANSON, 73, died on August 22, 2022, at Edmonton, Alberta. Gail will be lovingly remembered by Larry, her husband of 51 years, son Alan, daughter Karen (Ryan) Long, and her beloved Grandson, Bennett. Also left to mourn her passing are her sister Linda (Hilton) Radley, brother Don Mills, sister-in-law Debora (Lee) Webber, brothers-in-law Randy (Val) Swanson and Lyle (Brenda) Swanson, as well as numerous nieces, nephews and a host of friends. Gail joined Local Lodge Skandia #549 in Edmonton, Alberta, on October 2, 1993.

CALIFORNIA

EVERT "ANDY" ANDERSON of San Pablo, CA died on Sept. 7, 2022 at the age of 97 years. He was born in Skövde, Sweden in 1925, came to the US when he was three years old, and grew up in Moline, IL. Andy was in sales with Wear Ever Aluminum-Alcoa in the Pacific

Northwest and then in Northern California. He and his wife Pat joined Framåt Lodge #405 in 2011 and was an active member until his last few months. Andy is survived by three children, nine grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

CONNECTICUT

KATHERINE (JOHNSON) KALWAT, 92, of New Britain, CT, widow of Theodore Kalwat, died Jan. 25, 2022. In 1976 Kay joined Vasa Order of America Karl XII Lodge #103 having held many offices including five years as its Chairman. In May 1994 she joined VOA Norden Lodge No. 1 and was its cultural leader. She was a member of the Scandinavian Cultural Society and also a member of SVEA Club in Kensington. Kay was predeceased by her husband, parents Niles and Linnea (Spong) Johnson, son Mark Sullivan, brothers Gordon Johnson and N. Arthur Johnson. She is survived by children Thomas Sullivan, Anne Marie Perretta and Patricia Wood, brother Lawrence (Sonja) Johnson, 6 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren.

OREGON

ALICE JOYCE KEINBERGER-IVERSON was born in Hunter, North Dakota on June 2, 1932 and died on August 3, 2022 in Astoria, Oregon, and though plagued with cancer, led a full, active life to the end. Alice joined Astor Lodge #213 on March 30, 2013, and served Astor Lodge as District Deputy, was a Past District Master, PNW District 13, Grand Lodge Deputy, always working tirelessly for VASA and to preserve our Swedish heritage. Alice will be sorely missed.

WISCONSIN

BO AXELSSON of Västerås died on September 27, 2022 at the age of 83. Bo was a dual member with Linde Lodge #492 for 16 years. His "home" lodge was Enköping #646. We send our deepest condolences to his family and friends.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS



God Jul

District Lodge Connecticut No. 1
 Norden No. 1, Kronan No. 2
 Diana Birger Jarl No. 3
 Karl XII No. 103



God Jul och Gott Nytt År!

 Runeberg Lodge No. 137
 MNDL No. 7



God Jul och Gott Nytt År!
 To All Our VASA friends from
 Linnéa Lodge No. 504

Lodge Olympic #235 & Barnklubben
 Elsa Rix #1
 Wishes you
GOD JUL OCH GOTT NYTT ÅR

God Jul och Gott Nytt År
 Vänner Tillsammans
 Vinland Lodge
 of Cape Cod No. 703



& Gott Nytt År
 Wishes to all Vasa Friends from
District Lodge Lake Michigan No. 8
 Gene Kiesel DM • Tim Ogrentz VDM
 Lois Klubens DS • Janet Nelson ADS
 Linda Christensen DT • Linda Tylk HFS
 Annelise Nelson DCL • Kaitie Westlund Ponton DLYS
 Chuck Nelson EBM • Jim Pelzman EBM
 Lynda Smith PDM

God Jul och Gott Nytt År!

 May the holiday season
 bring you good cheer and
 health throughout the
 coming year!
 from District Lodge
 Golden Gate No. 12

God Jul och Gott Nytt År
 From
 Skandia Lodge No. 549
 Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

God Jul och Gott Nytt År
 To all our Vasa Family
 From Framåt Lodge No. 405
 El Cerrito, California
 vasajlg@aol.com

Christmas Greetings
 From
Nobel-Monitor Lodge
 Marianne Gotrich, Chairman
 Marty Bergman, Vice Chairman
 Ellana Miklos, Secretary
 Karen Chilcote, Financial Secretary
 Rolf Bergman, Treasurer
 Twyla Sales, Chaplin
 Bruce Elfvin & Darlene Nelson, Trustees
 Ann Mari Pearson, Auditor
 Carolyn Anderson, Historian
 Ralph Johnson, Master of Ceremonies
God Jul och Gott Nytt År

God Jul och Gott Nytt År

 Diana Birger Jarl No. 3,
 DL no. 1 Connecticut

District Lodge Alberta No. 18 V.O.A.
 90th Anniversary on October 30, 2021
 Representing
 LL Branting No. 417, Calgary
 LL Skandia No. 549 Edmonton,
 and
 LL Lethbridge No. 579, Lethbridge
 Sends Greetings to all Vasa Members
God Jul Och Gott Nytt År Från Canada!

God Jul och Gott Nytt År!
 önskar
 Gary och Gunlog Spaberg, Haakan Spaberg
 Evening Star Lodge 100 yrs anniversary
 Dec 17, 2022

God Jul, Hyvää Joulua,
 Gleðileg jóll, Glædelig jul
 Och
 Gott Nytt År To All!
 From Ingeborg No. 66
 Brockton MA.

Greetings from
 Frithiof Lodge #63 NJ
 Home of
 Grand Master
 Jack Hanright

God Jul och Gott Nytt År
 To all our VASA Friends from
 All members of
 SVEA #296, Erie, PA
 Pat Bellingham, Chair



DL 12 2022 District Convention. RIGHT: Congratulations to DL #12's newest Honorary Life Members (L to R) PDM Ed Netzel, PDM Edythe Anderson, Secretary Mary Wahlberg. Photo by PGM Tore Kellgren



DL No. 12 Golden Gate

DL Golden Gate #12 hosted its Convention 9/30-10/2 in Sacramento. Joining us were GM John Hanright, VGM Tom Cleveland, GL Board Members Western Region John Erickson and Midwest Region Antonio Spargo, GL Deputy #15 Birgitta Roodsari, GL Deputy #12 Birgitta Kellgren, PGM Eric Johnson and PGM Tore Kellgren. Flag Ceremony was performed by PDM Club #28. We voted on four Bylaw resolutions and three were approved. Honorary Life Member status was awarded to PDM

Ed Netzel, PDM Edythe Anderson and Mary Wahlberg for their service. Svea #348 was presented with a 1st Place Certificate for increase in membership in 2021. GL Deputy Birgitta Kellgren presided over election of officers: DM Darin Freeland, VDM James Netzel, Treasurer Keith Hanlon, Secretary Mary Wahlberg, Asst Secretary Leslie Johnson, Board Members Kate Lindblad-Christensen and Rick Wahlberg, Membership Chair Robert Homer, Cultural Leader Christine Monksfield, Chaplain Kikki

Nordin, Auditors Jan Nordin, Paul Jevert, James Helberg, Trustees Craig Petersen, Sven-Ove Westberg, Ed Netzel, MC Dennis Donnelly Asst MC Marilyn Alvernaz, Inner Guard Melissa Netzel and Outer Guard Alyson Ryberg. GM John Hanright presented Vonne Thurman Svea #348 with her 50 year membership jewel at Saturday's Banquet. Basket Drawing was a success thanks to lodges' generous donations of gift baskets. 50/25/25 Drawing winners were Alyson Ryberg and GM John

Hanright. PDM Edythe Anderson conducted the Memorial Service with PDM Victoria Fedor-Thurman. We bid farewell to 68 members who have passed away since 2019. GL Deputy Birgitta Kellgren presided over the installation of officers. DM Freeland installed District Deputies. Guests gave brief speeches and PDM Netzel was presented with a plaque for his service these last 3 years. Our next convention is planned for April 2024. SUBMITTED BY MARY WAHLBERG, DISTRICT 12 SECRETARY

DL No. 15 Pacific Southwest

2022 started with still following COVID-guidelines and therefore our annual Convention had not been held since 2020. We held it in May 2022. Inga Francis was installed as District Master in 2020, but unfortunately she passed away and VDM Maggie Connolly took over until 2022. At the Convention in May a new District Master was voted in and installed. The Executive Board was installed and several Officers kept their positions. Jon appointed other Officers and Committees to the District. Our District is strong and everyone works towards Unity. As other Districts, ours has also lost members and one Lodge closed in December 2021, but their members were dual members

with another Lodge. This year, Vasa Park Association has together with the District held picnics in our Vasa Park. The Spring Fest in April and the Midsummer Festival in June. Another is planned for October, Fall Fest/Marknad. These picnics are attended by hundreds of members/friends. Vendors put up their wares for sale. During the October Marknad there will be a Meatball contest between Members and Lodges with prizes for most voted Meatballs. Voting tickets will be sold to vote on the most liked. Ticket holders will also be served Mashed Potatoes and Lingonberry. Our District has 11 Lodges from Palm Desert in the South, throughout Orange County, Los Ange-



Midsummer Queen: Grayson Paul - Miss Svea: Sara Buck - Miss Columbia: Lois Halverson

les County to Ventura County in the North. Most Lodges have had meetings in person this year. Our District has or will be celebrating several milestones with lunches or dinners. Our oldest Lodge North Star 106 will have its celebration of 115 years in September, Desert Viking 682 celebrated 55 years and Evening Star 426 will be 100 years in December. Last year Golden

Valley 616 celebrated 75 years. Next year Northern Light 620 will be 75, Mayflower 445 100, Skandia 247 and Viking 256 110 years old. From our District to all other Lodges in USA, Canada and Sweden, we wish you a prosperous 2023 and especially send congratulations to our new Grand Master John Hanright and his staff. SUBMITTED BY MAIDIE KARLING

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
God Jul och Gott Nytt År!
 To all our Vasa friends from Brage Lodge 764 Peoria IL

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
 To Vasa Friends in Sweden Canada and USA
 Liza & Rolf Ekstrand and Family




Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
 From Debbie Larsson
 GLEB Member Eastern Region
 And John Larsson



Vi önskar er en god jul och ett gott nytt år!
 Från Sierra Kronan #737



God Jul och Gott Nytt År
 To all our Vasa Family & Friends
 From Oak Leaf Lodge #685
 Thousand Oaks, California



En God Jul och Ett Gott Nytt År
 önskar
 Connie Grön FDM
 Einar Savolainen Grön SLD DL 19



Members of Lindbergh Lodge #505
 Huntington, NY
 önskar er alla
God Jul och Gott Nytt År



God Jul Per & Mom/Grandma Trudy!
 Wishing you all the best in 2023!
 Lots of Love,
 Kurt, Stina, Karina & Lukas



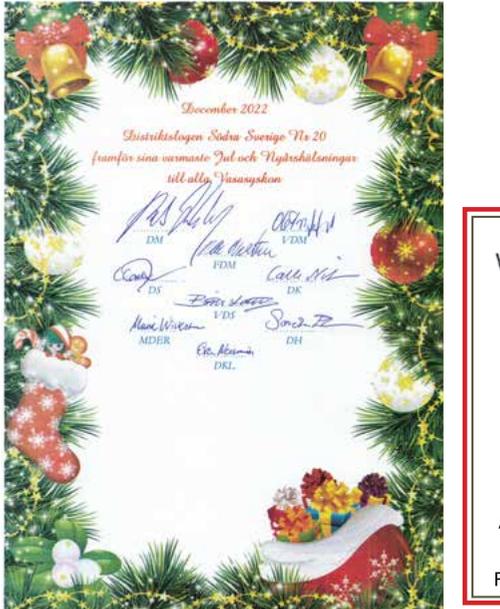

SVEABORG LODGE #449 WISHES YOU ALL
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR!



The Members of Sveaborg Lodge 449 wish you and your family a safe and healthy holiday season. We look forward to 2023 - our 99th Anniversary and remain strong and connected in spirit with you all, and our fellow Vasa Members!



Distriktslogen Norra Sverige #19
 önskar alla Vasasyskon
GOD JUL och ett Lyckosamt NYTT ÅR 2023
 DM Maggie Thelin, VDM Roger Axelsson,
 DK Ann-Sara Liljebladh, DS Birgit Hellström,
 VDS Per Wingren, DKL Charlotte Börjesson
 MDER Marianne Andersson



December 2022
 Distriktslogen Norra Sverige Nr 20
 framför sina varmaste Jul och Nyårshälsningar till alla Vasasyskon



District Lodge Pacific SW #15
 Wishes you and yours all the joys of the season

God Jul and a Very Merry Christmas

District 15 Convention
 February 25, 2023
 A unique one-day convention at Rush Park Auditorium in Los Alamitos, CA.
 Registration at VasaDL15.org



Gott Nytt År Happy New Year

DL No. 19 Norra Sverige

Dear Vasa friends in America, Canada and Sweden - After a great summer and a warm fall we only have two months left of 2022, the time flies. There have been some lodge meetings in Sweden starting in September. My own lodge has had two meetings and on Nov 12 we celebrate our 30th anniversary. We are looking forward to welcome around 90 members from all over Sweden. Apart from my own lodge meetings, I've visited two lodges in October, Vadstena No 762 and congratulated them on their 15th anniversary. I also went to Gothenburg No 452 and their Atlantic lodge, and I was so happy to meet our First Lady Inger Hanright there. Kurt and I wish

you all the best and that you will enjoy the upcoming holidays.

SUBMITTED BY MAGGIE AHLIN THELIN



Vasa's First Lady Inger Hanright (left) and DL 19's DM Maggie Ahlin Thelin



Shown at the Thule Lodge Harvest dinner are Randy Miller, past chairman Tim Miller, Janet Miller, and lodge chairman Susan Fredrickson Washington Sipos.

YOUTH CLUB NEWS

Skansen Children's Club No. 147

BUDD LAKE, NJ / The annual Lucia pageant for Skansen Children's Club #147, sponsored by Arlington #62, is once again being performed at 3pm on December 3, 2022, with Sophie Haumacher portraying Santa Lucia at the Cultural Center, Vasa Park, Budd Lake, NJ.

Sophie, the daughter of David and Gail Haumacher, is in the eighth grade at Eisenhower Middle School, Roxbury NJ. She enjoys being involved with Roxbury recreational cheer for eighth grade Varsity football as well as Northern Elite competition cheer. She has been a member of Skansen Children's Club #147 since she was 2 1/2 years old, having been tomte, gingerbread cookie, baker, star carrier, bride's maid and now Lucia.

Her grandparents are PDM Arthur and PDM Helen Haumacher and her great-grandparents, PDM Carl G. and Hilma Johnson of Stockholm and Borlange, Dalarna respectively.

SUBMITTED BY ART HAUMACHER



Sophie Haumacher, Lucia for Skansen Children's Club #147, New Jersey District #6

LOCAL LODGE NEWS

Thule No. 127

JAMESTOWN-FALCONER, NY / The Thule Lodge is into its 115th year. Susan Fredrickson Washington Sipos is the lodge chairman, Stephanie Buccola is the vice president, Loretta Smith is the treasurer, Diane K Shaw is the lodge chaplain, Mary Ann Eva Ingrao is the cultural leader, and John Sipos serves as the lodge secretary and historian. The annual harvest turkey dinner was held in late October, attended by many, and enjoyed by all. Thanks to treasurer Smith for organizing the dinner. Nancy

Jones and Karen Johnson are in charge of the officer nominating committee for the year 2023. Elections will be held at the November meeting. The Scandinavian Studies program began at the Jamestown Community College on the first Saturday of each month. Included are crafts, music, dancing and lectures. Thule is planning its annual Dopp i Gryta in the middle of December. All from Thule Lodge wish everyone a happy Christmas season and a happy New Year.

SUBMITTED BY JOHN SIPOS, LODGE HISTORIAN



Moving?
Be sure to send address changes to:
circulationvasastar@gmail.com

Runeberg No. 137

MINNEAPOLIS, MN / Our Runeberg Lodge is back to meeting regularly. The photo shows us after we enjoyed a delicious potluck meal in September. In October a regular business meeting was held. We also celebrated member JoAnn Thoren's 92nd Birthday. It is so good to be meeting again!

SUBMITTED BY EUNICE DIETRICH

A delicious pot luck meal in September for Runeberg lodge members.



Bessemer No. 203

OAK LAWN, IL / Bessemer had two events this summer. On July 31st, we went to the White Sox game at Guaranteed Rate Field for a game. We WON! On August 13th, we were invited to one of our members home for a Bar-B-Que and a dip in the pool. We had a wonderful time. Our hosts were Carl and Cherry Gershon.

SUBMITTED BY CHRIS KILSTROM



Svea Lodge #348 new members are (L to R) Yvette Frojelein, Tiffany Pereira, Tony Pereira and Craig Anderson, VÄLKOMNA!

Svea No. 348

SAN JOSÉ, CA / On September 16 Svea Lodge #348 had its first in-person meeting at our lodge in two years! It was both a joyous meeting and a grieving meeting. We were glad to welcome four new members to the Lodge: Yvette Frojelein, Tiffany Pereira, Tony Pereira and Craig Anderson, VÄLKOMMEN! On the grieving side by honoring our departed members. Our lodge Chaplain, Kikki Nordin, lead the Draping of the Charter for seven sorely missed members: Stephen Wilson, Keith Crawford, Robert deGaston, Raymond Carlson, Perr Cardestam, Diane Maynard and Don Erickson all who passed away during the pandemic but not

necessarily because of it. We sincerely miss these beloved members. We look forward to the coming events concluding 2022 including our November meetings and our December Julbord dinner celebrating Jul, Christmas. For our October 21 meeting, our cultural event scheduled by our Cultural Leader Henry Mulak was our Historian Marilyn Crawford presenting, "The True Story about Scandinavians Detoured to Hawaii in Route to America". This was a fascinating account of emigrants from Norway and Sweden who were obliged to contract to work on the sugar plantations in Maui Hawaii for three years, before being able to finally arrive in Northern California in 1883.

SUBMITTED BY JACK KNUTSON

Evening Star No. 426



Syjunta i södra Kalifornien med många glada minner.

LOS ALAMITOS, CA / Vi är en grupp svenskor som träffas för syjunta en gång i månaden. Vi bor söder om Los Angeles i Kalifornien. Syjuntan startades för över 55 år sedan, och några har varit med från början. Vi är nu alla i mogen ålder, de yngsta har fyllt 70 år. Vi firar jämna födelsedagar, byter svenska böcker och tidningar. Nu hade vi lunch hos Maj-Britt som är 95 år och som efter 50 år i USA, flyttar tillbaka till Sverige. Ingrid, som också har bott här i 50 år flyttar också tillbaka. Vi kommer att sakna dem. Hälsningar från vår syjunta där många av oss är medlemmar i Eventing Star.

SUBMITTED BY ANN-MARIE TUBBIN-VANCE AND GUNLOG SPABERG

Linde No. 492

MILWAUKEE, WI / Since Midsommar lots of things have happened, although we had to cancel the Kräftskiva in August, due to bleak participation, some of us went to Scandinavian Day in Vasa Park, S. Elgin, IL and met up with other lodges in early September. A very rainy day, but we are Vikings. At the end of September ten of us joined Lodge Bishop Hill during Ag-Days (Jordbruksdagarna), and all the fun it offers. It was an absolutely fabulous weekend and the weather couldn't have been better. We stayed overnight and joined their friendly invite to lodge BH's potluck on Saturday night, and met many other lodge members as well. We had a lodge meeting in October with a "Sommarstugor" program, and in November we will have a meeting and program on recent "Travel memories in Sweden". December will be busy with a Lucia program on the 4th, at 4:00 PM Whitnall Park Lutheran Church, Hales Corners, WI. And a Christmas lunch on the 10th, at 1:00 PM at Maxim's Restaurant in Brookfield. Join us for our events when you can. And soon we say Goodbye to 2022 and the 2023 programs need to be firmed up.

SUBMITTED BY LIZA EKSTRAND



Linde members at the potluck in Bishop Hill during Ag-Days were joined by VGM Tom Cleveland.

Frihet No. 401 SEATTLE, WA / Greetings from Frihet lodge in beautiful Seattle. Time has gone by swiftly and here we are looking at 2023 soon. In the meantime we have had a lovely Summer and in September we had the honor and privilege to host the District 13 convention at Vasa Park. Not much business to attend, but everybody was overjoyed to see one another. We have a member, Irene Tack who is celebrating her 100th birthday. We gave a scholarship. We are looking forward to a holiday season with Christmas celebrations.

SUBMITTED BY KAREN RISTON



Linnea No. 504

PETALUMA, CA / We celebrated our 95th anniversary with a Swedish Potluck at the Petaluma Veterans Hall. The buffet was filled with members' specialties, including meatballs, herring, knäckebröd, fruktsoppa and other Swedish dishes. Special guests were District Deputy and Membership Chair Robert Homer and past Grand Secretary Joanie Graham. Vice Chairman Nick Provenzano put together a slideshow of past events for all to enjoy. Everyone shared their lodge memories of fun and fellowship. Sandra Bowman remembered as a child going to meetings with her mother and grandmother at Dania Hall where the youngsters played in a separate room during the meeting. Linnea Koagedal told us about the wonderful dinner dances, and Joanie Graham of Framåt recalled attending one of our events and meeting Allan Johnson who orga-



Linnea #504 Turned 95! - Treasurer Linnea Koagedal and Chair Rick Wahlberg checking out the Princess Cake!

nized the lodge. We had a drawing for an afghan blanket donated by Karin Calleja and a gift basket. Our Lucia Fest is on December 11 with a pageant and fika. On January 28, it's installation of officers and draping of the Charter in memory of five members who have passed away since 2019. We're back!

SUBMITTED BY MARY WAHLBERG

Lyckan No. 507

EDISON, NJ / On September 9th Lyckan Lodge #507 hosted their District 6 lodge official visit along with two sister lodges, Vågen #588 and Dalahäst #742. The meeting was held at the Danish Home in Edison NJ and was well attended by all 3 lodges. Our District Master Kory Warner and Brittany, as well as Vice District Master Michelle Payea were also in attendance. Since the meeting hall is at the Danish Home, a variety of delicious Danish Open Face sandwiches were served. The meeting opened with a dedication and a moment of silence in honor of the fallen heroes of 9/11. After a brief business meeting, Lyckan secretary Debbie Larsson gave a cultural report in which she talked about the Scandinavian immigration to the United States, specifically about Danish immigration to the local area. Because the social life of early immigrants to this country centered on their churches, Debbie gave a historical account of Saint Stephen Danish Lutheran Church which was organized in 1872 by 41 Danish immigrants. This was followed by a tour of the museum created by DANE (Danish Archives North East) at the Danish Home. Debbie was able to provide anecdotes about some of the immigrants and former residents of the Danish Home. All of the members thoroughly enjoyed the tour and the presentation.

Following the cultural report we returned to our meeting and proceeded with the good of the order. District Master Kory Warner was presented with gifts from all 3 lodges.

SUBMITTED BY JOHN LARSSON

Nordic No. 611

WORCESTER, MA / Returning from summer vacation our first meeting in September was talkative with everyone happy to see everyone. An informational presentation on wild mushroom harvesting in Sweden was made by cultural leader Nancy Shultzberg. October's meeting was a presentation of the prosecution of Swedish witches similar to what happened here in Salem. Then, in honor of Leif Ericsson, a talk on him was presented by Chairman Meryll Havens which included a quiz that provided prizes for right answers. It kept everyone entertained. The lodge's 80th anniversary, which was 3 years ago and delayed by COVID finally was celebrated at Wright's chicken farm. There

was an all you can eat meal which put everyone in a good mood.

SUBMITTED BY ÅKE JANSSON



The lodge's 80th anniversary, finally celebrated 3 years later.

Phoenix No. 677

PHOENIX, AZ / We are back to meeting in person with much appreciation. Our September meeting was special, we said goodbye to two long-time members/friends, Katarina and Per Ivarsson. We are sad to see them go, however, wish them well back in Sweden moving closer to family. Friends and members came to wish them well, and to put them into the mood, an accordion player with Scandinavian music gave a hint of things to come for them. In October, we had a special treat. Marilee Mansfield with her nyckelharpa gave an introduction to the instrument and

entertained with playing it for our enjoyment. We also had our election for new officers for the 2022/2023 season. Thank you to all who volunteered to lead us into the new lodge year. Our Jul Bazaar will take place on November 5 at Church of the Beatitudes, Nelson Hall, from 10:00 to 2:00 o'clock. It has been a long time since we were able to enjoy this endeavor. Save the date for December 10, 2022 for our Luciafest at our Saviour's Lutheran Church. Further details to follow in the coming weeks. From Our Lodge to Your Lodge, best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving.

SUBMITTED BY ROMY SOLOMONSON

Brage No. 764

PEORIA, IL / Brage continues to meet on the Second Sunday at Salem Lutheran Church. Because of an added second service, we start at around 12:15 for a light lunch. Our programs vary from speakers, to movies (A MAN CALLED OVE), to crafts, to show and tell and of course a lot of conversation! Our show and tells are a lot of fun as we bring something from home with a story. We are looking forward to our Santa Lucia in December. We usually had Bingo in December but now we sometimes do it in January as our Santa Lucia and Lunch and conversation leave little time for the Bingo. Wishing each of you a Blessed Holiday and a healthy New Year.

SUBMITTED BY NADINE WILLEMS

Craft project and conversation with Lady in blue is Carole Christman, Stan Rush, Marty Creager, at table sitting Luan Borquist, Larry Kotewa, Inez Norggard and Jo Lakota.



Vinland No. 703

CAPE COD, MA / Lodge Vice Chairman, Svea Peterson, prepared and served an outstanding, delicious luncheon for our members and guests at our October meeting. District Treasurer and our Lodge District Deputy, Lynne Aronson Martin, attended. Our slate of officers for 2023 was established to be voted on at our Nov. 19th meeting. We will journey off-Cape to attend a Scandinavian Christmas Fair in Brockton, MA on Nov. 12.th . More outings will be planned for the spring



Vinland's October luncheon - Left to right: Judy Peterson, Lynne Aronson Martin, Svea Peterson, Clara Buttrick, Anne Swanson, Karen Gauch, Bonnie Elin Dale

months. Our annual Luciafest (after a two-year hiatus) is scheduled for Sunday, Dec.4th at 2:00 at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in East Harwich. The Installation of Officers for 2023 will be held at 1:00 on Jan. 21, 2023. SUBMITTED BY DOROTHY ANN ELLNER KEAN

Stenland No. 727



UPPER NYACK, NY / Our lodge is looking forward to celebrating St. Lucia Day and our annual Christmas party on Saturday December 3, at 2:00 PM. Doors open at 1:30. It will be held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 112 N. Main Street in Pearl River, New York. We extend an invitation to anyone who would be interested in attending. We offer delicious refreshments after the Lucia procession prepared by our members. Santa makes a visit to give the children "Smallkarameller" we make at our November meeting. We also have an extensive raffle with wonderful baskets. Our Lucia this year will be Hela Sage Giaever who is of Norwegian descent. She

has been to Norway three times with her family visiting the Oslo area where her relatives live. All of her mother's relatives live in Norway. Hela's grandfather Dr. Ivar Giaever won the Nobel Prize for physics in 1973. She is in 11th grade and enjoys playing tennis, acting and film-making.



Stenland's Lucia program. INSET: Hela Sage Giaever will portray Lucia on December 3, 2022.

SUBMITTED BY INGRID ALLISON

SWEDISH NEWS

Göteborg No. 452

GÖTEBORG, SWEDEN / Pandemin har äntligen släppt sitt grepp så att vi kan börja träffas igen utan några större restriktioner. Logen Göteborg inledde höstterminen den 27 september med en välbesökt lunch i det gamla bankpalatset, numera omgjort till Antikhallarna. Vissa av scenerna i filmen Änglar finns dom med Jarl Kulle och Christina Schollin i huvudrollerna spelades in här 1960/61. Logen gästades denna gång av Vasa Ordens First Lady Inger Hanright som jag med glädje passade på att välkomna till Logen Göteborgs planerade 100-års jubileum 2024 tillsammans med maken Grand Master John Hanright. Logen gästades även av Distriktsmästare Maggie Ahlin Thelin DL19. Vår protokollsekreterare sy Birgit Hellström rapporterade utfallet i den genomförda medlemsenkäten vilken styrelsen kommer att analysera. Logen avslutades med härligt country-doftande schlagers framförda av populära duon Christer & Örjan.

SUBMITTED BY TORSTEN OLSSON



Från vänster: First Lady Inger Hanright, logen Göteborgs ordf. Torsten Olsson, logesyster Connie Grön, logens CM Håkan Hellström, Distriktsmästare Maggie Ahlin Thelin DL19.

Skåne No. 570

MALMÖ, SWEDEN / Grillfesten i Kungsparken 19 juni blev lyckad. Vi njöt i den mäktiga askens skugga under grillmästarnas (Br Sivert & Br Olle) planering och ledning. Solen strålade från en molnfri himmel. Kulturledarens Quiz om Vasa var en enkel match för Br Evert, vår kaplan Sy Lena och Ordförande Br Sivert, där utslagsfrågan fällde avgörandet. Br Evert var bäst på att räkna skruvar. De tre prisades med diplom och amerikanska accessoarer, keps & scarves, när vi åter möttes på höstens första möte 9 september. Mötet fick en festligare inramning av att Sy Sigrid, med anledning av 90-årsdagen, serverade alla bubblande "Champagne". Br Olle bjöd oss uppskattat reportage

från Storlogemötet i Philadelphia. Oktobermötet gick i havets tecken. Vår ordförande Br Sivert berättade om sina seglatser iklädd seglarutrustning. Bordet, pyntade med havssand, tång, repknoppar och skeppsservetter, förhöjde stämningen. Kulturledaren inbjöd till sjömanssånger ackompanjerade av Åke Grönberg. Logen ska försöka lösa den spännande mordgåtan "Dåd i Dimman" på Slottet Bjärsjölagård 19 november. Den som var ute i god tid lyckades boka övernattningsrum på själva Slottet. 1:a Advent stundar Kyrksöndag i Malmös största och äldsta kyrka, S:t Petri, med julmarknad och fantastiskt julbord på Rådhuskällaren. Året avslutas med Julfest 10 december. Kommer tomten tro?

SUBMITTED BY MARIANNE ANDERSSON

Höganäs No. 634

HÖGANÄS, SWEDEN / Höstens första möte hölls i september. Parentation hölls över en avlidne medlem och två nya medlemmar recipierade. Till efterkapitlet hade den 13-åriga flickan Saga Kjellgren och hennes familj inbjudits. I våras skrev Saga ett brev till vår loge och undrade om vi kunde bidra till hennes lägervistelse i Seattle, USA. Flera logesyskon tyckte att detta var en fin sak och en privat insamling startades. Saga lovade att komma och berätta om sina upplevelser på Summer Camp Four Winds Westwards Ho. Vi fick nu höra om denna fantastiska upplevelse i ord och bild, Saga var en duktig berättare trots sina unga år. Hon tackades med en vacker blomma och många applåder. I oktober var det dags för högtidsmöte. Till tonerna av Gammal Fäbodpsalm höll O Br Calle ett minnestal över ännu en avlidne medlem. KL Sy Agneta framförde hälsningar från våra vänloger i Kalifornien och läste därefter ett avsnitt ur en bok om en familj som flyttade till Chicago. Vid banketten serverades en läcker majsckylning, som i år fick ersätta kalkonen. VO Sy Anna-Brita höll ett vackert välkomsttal till våra nya medlemmar och Br Ingmar tackade för det fina mottagandet. Nu väntar vi på Brödernas afton den 19 november med nya hyss och upptåg.

SUBMITTED BY BERIT OCH HANS BOGREN



Tre generationer - Nathalie Larsson (ny medlem med far och farfar) Roger Larsson och Kenneth Larsson.

Tomelilla No. 631

TOMELILLA, SWEDEN / Vid Högtidsmötet i oktober på Kverrestads Bygdegård med gäster från Logen Christian hälsades alla välkomna. Från den nerlagda Logen i Ronneby hälsades en medlem välkommen, och en reception för två nya unga medlemmar, som infördes och som avgav ordenslöften, hälsades också välkomna till vår Loge. Efter att de sedvanliga punkterna avhandlats informerade kulturledaren om nyheter från vänlogen Linde 492. Bland deras aktiviteter hade de en Skandinavisk Dag med skandinaviska maträtter och en-ABBA-grupp som uppträdde. De planerar också aktiviteter för

senare i höst och jul. Därefter berättade logehistorikern om Höstdagjämningen, ett farväl till sommaren inför höst/vintertid, dygnet då dag och natt är lika långa. Efterkapitlet inleddes med mingel, njutning av dansk fläsksteg med olika tillbehör och dansk äpplekaka. Därefter bjöds det upp till dans med musik från Gert Lantz orkester. Kaffe och syster Anithas fantastiska tårta avåts senare. Lottdragning på många fina skänkta vinster och lite mera mingel avslutade kvällen och vi begav oss hemåt mätta och belåtna efter en trevlig kväll.

SUBMITTED BY ANNE-MAJ RÅBERG

SWEDISH NEWS



Ovan: Bussutflykt för 28 logesyskon.

Nybyggarna No. 698

ÄNGELHOLM, SWEDEN / Till höstterminens första logemöte den 4 september med efterföljande bussutflykt, hade vi samlat 28 logesyskon. Det började med sedvanligt logemöte kl 09.00, därefter väntade en buss som tog oss till Farhult som ligger på Kullabygden, där intog vi vår medhavda frukost. Ingen ville bada fast solen sken och vi var på stranden. Vidare till Arilds vingård där vi fick en guidad visning av ägaren Jonas Ivarsson som berättade att målet med vinerna som odlas på Kullabergs sydslutningar är att de skall produceras med

så lite miljöpåverkan som möjligt och med hög kvalitet. Druvorna som odlas är Solaris som ger ett vitt vin, det tillverkas även bubbel och rödvin av Cabernet och Pinot Noir. Efter vinprovning serverades en utsökt måltid. Dagen avslutades med dragning på lotteriet. Arrangörerna Sy Karin och Br Assar Olsson samt Sy Karin och Br Anders Böcker tackades för en mycket trevlig dag och bussen gick åter till Ängelholm.

SUBMITTED BY CLAES JOHANSSON

Härligt vid havet.



Frukost i det gröna.



Vinfat i mängd.



STORMÄSTARENS MEDDELANDE

KÄRA VASA BRÖDER OCH SYSTRAR,

Sommaren avslutades i storslagen stil när, efter 2 års avsaknad pga covid, Scanfest återvände till New Jersey med över 4000 besökare. New Jersey Vasa Park var värdar för festivalen. Artister från Sverige reste till oss för att uppträda och det var den största Skandinaviska marknaden på Amerikanska östkusten. Vädret var perfekt och Scanfest kommittén gjorde ett fantastiskt jobb! Nu brinner träden i höstfärger och luften är klar och kylig. Hösten är händelserik för oss. Lokallogerna planerar sina möten och traditionella sammankomster. I september åkte Inger och jag till Pacific Nordvästra Distriktet no 13, för deras årsmöte. Det hölls i Bellevue, i staten Washington, och det var mycket trevligt att träffa både gamla vänner, efter så lång



tid, och även många nya vänner. Första dagens möte hölls på Embassy Suites Hotell och Distriktmästare Jeff Klein styrde över ett lyckat möte. Kvällens bankett hölls i festsalen i Vasa Parken vid Sammamish sjön. Salen är mycket vacker och vi njöt av en mycket god middag med musik och dans. Andra dagens möte hölls i samma sal, och nya tjänstemän blev valda och installerade för den nya terminen. I slutet på månaden besökte jag Golden Gate Distriktet no 12 i Sacramento. Det hölls på DoubleTree Hilton, samma hotell som Storlogemötet i 2018. Det kändes som längesen som jag träffade dessa medlemmar, och skönt att äntligen komma tillbaka. Distriktmästare Ed Netzler styrde över mötet och gjorde ett fantastiskt jobb. På lördagskvällen fick jag äran att presentera en 50 års juvel till syster Vonne Thurman. Grattis Vonne! Storlogens exekutiva råd har gjort ett bra jobb med att överföra information

och samarbeta och med nya tjänstemän, och jobbar aktivt med ett antal olika arbetsuppgifter. Storloge konstitutionen har blivit uppdaterad till de ändringar som röstades in i Philadelphia, och den nya versionen finns att beställa och även att trycka ut från hemsidan. Vice Stormästare Tom Cleveland har även lagt ut information om studie stipendier och hur man ansöker, på hemsidan, och vi uppmanar våra medlemmar att ansöka. Under förra 4 års terminen delade Vasaorden ut 98 studiestipendier och 24 bidrag till Sjölundens språkläger. Som jag rapporterade i sommarnumret, så har vi ett imponerande antal unga medlemmar som har utmärkt sig i sina utbildningar. Överväg att donera till fonden för våra studiestipendier, det är en värdefull hjälp för våra yngre medlemmar. Nationella Arkivet i Bishop Hill planerar för fullt för höst och vinter, som ni kan läsa om i arkivordförandes artikel. Vår arkivist,

Kathy Cuff, fortsätter att göra ett utmärkt jobb. Var snäll och stöd deras insamlingar för fortsatt arbete. Vårt arkiv är en mycket speciell del av vår organisation och alla är uppmuntrade att hälsa på och upptäcka den mysiga lilla staden Bishop Hill. Vasastjärnan är en viktig källa av kommunikation för alla medlemmar, och våra duktiga redaktörer Christa Svensson och Liza Ekstrand jobbar hårt och utgivaren Nordstjärnan arbetar i tandem för att få ut en kvalitetstidning. Glöm inte att skicka in artiklar om vad som händer i era lokala distrikt och loger! Det är alltid roligt att se bilder av medlemmar från hela organisationen och alla trevliga sammankomster som vi har. Med hjärtliga hälsningar för en rolig och hälsosam helgsäsong!

MED GENEROSITET, I SANNING OCH ENIGHET,
JOHN HANRIGHT (JACK)
STORMÄSTARE