



# THE VASA STAR

## VASASTJÄRNAN

SUMMER 2021  
Publication of *The Vasa Order of America*



Reunion with two former Skansen children—George and Grace Kasekes. Here with mom Kathy Kasekes (left), Sonia Hummel, and Liza Ekstrand (right). Lodge Linde No. 492 / p14

## MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND MASTER

DEAR VASA MEMBERS, I hope everyone has enjoyed the summer months with long, summer days and warm sun! To be truthful, I could have done without those months having had COVID-19, two knee replace-



ments and physical therapy for them, plus two COVID vaccinations. What a summer! My style has been royally cramped and my personal enthusiasm temporarily took a bit of a hit. In this Vasa Star you should be excited to see how many of our youth have won scholarships. Just wonderful! We are enthusiastic for each student's

academic success – and are hopeful they will contribute to the strength of the Vasa Order in the future! Another exciting development in the last few months, we have had a member give a sizeable donation to the Archives. The donors of that gift wish to remain anonymous. We are very thankful to them for their gener-

ous donation to support the future of the Archives. It has been very nice to see local lodges having meetings again, both indoors and outside, depending on location. I feel bad that so many Districts have been unable to have official meetings but will of course be attending the few / continued on p4

### National Archive News

Bill Lundqvist, esteemed PGM and President Vasa National Archives passed away this summer. / p3

### Grand Lodge News

How to submit motions to our 40th Grand Lodge Convention in 2022 along with sample formats ... / p4, 5

### Scholarship awardees

Look at the young members in this issue who show academic success and are going forward in their lives with your support / p6

### Local Lodge News

Summer activities have been less and different from earlier years but here's to catching up with friends all over the U.S. / p12

# EDITOR'S MESSAGE



DEAR READERS,  
Late summer is here and the season, just as the first days of fall, is magic in so many ways.

The halcyon days of Mid-summer have led to the warm days of August, ripe with foraging for berries and boiling up crayfish for happy parties. Coming from a fishing family and working in the seafood industry, summer through early fall is also the season for fish and fishing. In fairness, every season is the season for fish, but this time of year traditionally brings an abundance of salmon, flatfish, and albacore tuna. For me, it's the season of abundance and many pleasurable memories of cooking freshly caught fish with new potatoes and, if I was extra diligent, foraged greens and a few chanterelles.

Chanterelles are more of a fall item where I live, but I'll never forget my first experience foraging for them. I was seventeen and it was on a Vasa cultural youth exchange in late June

or early July. One of the Swedish families I stayed with took me to their stuga in the woods and it was there that the mother showed me something special. It was her secret chanterelle patch and from the first bite I was hooked. I was also thrilled to learn that my love of foraging for berries, fiddlehead ferns, and other wild plants was a connection to my Swedish heritage. Imagine my surprise, years later, to discover that the same mushrooms grow across wide swaths of the United States and Canada.

I continue to think fondly of the families who were willing to open their homes to me and share so many ordinary but quintessentially Swedish moments. It reminds me that participating in and sharing our culture and heritage happens not just at festivals and events, but also in quiet familial times. Certainly, that is at the heart of Vasa.

IN TRUTH AND UNITY,  
CHRISTA SVENSSON

## ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS



Lining up for barbecue at a meeting of Höganäs, Sweden No. 634 / p16



Three New Members of Tucson No. 691 Deborah Peters, Emma Enos, and Elena Enos welcomed. / p15



Erie, PA viking ship float built by members of Svea No. 296 / p13



Baby McKenna Britt Murphy with her mother, Kimberly Murphy. LL Bessemer No. 203. / p12

## THE VASA STAR

Summer 2021  
Vol. 113, No. 3, Serial 852  
Published by The Vasa Order of America  
www.vasaorder.com

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Layout & production: Nordstjernen, Swedish News, Inc.

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vasaeditor@gmail.com

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For our next issue:

**By November 15**

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

**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

## ARCHIVES NEWS

### A message from the president of Vasa National Archives

DEAR FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE ORDER AND FRIENDS OF THE VASA NATIONAL ARCHIVES, I have had the privilege and pleasure to work with Bill Lundquist for the last seven years. It was easy to work with Bill Lundquist, as President of the Archives, and it is with a heavy heart for our loss of his services to us all. The Vasa National Archives has survived the worst of Covid and is now engaging in its regular work in Bishop Hill, cautiously as the latest wave of the Delta variant has filled hospitals across the

country. We continue to raise money and seek matching grants to allow the full conversion of our microfilm records to digital form. Kathy Cuff, our archivist, continues to search for grants to leverage our money to get this project completed sooner. Bishop Hill is celebrating its 175th birthday, so this is a good time to visit this historic Swedish community.

It is my plan, hopefully with the help of Kathy Cuff and others, to approach Julgran this year as an opportunity to

celebrate the lives, contributions and support of the Vasa National Archives by Bill Lundquist and Nancy Hult, spouse of Emeritus Archive Board Member Sten Hult and a stalwart supporter of the VNA from DL Michigan #8, who died last year. We were unable to honor Nancy's support due to Covid and 2021's Julgran event should be a good time to do so. All donations in their memories will support the Heritage Fund of the Vasa National Archives. Please be safe and listen to the guidance

on mask wearing and vaccinations. We hope to see all of our members and friends in Bishop Hill. I hope to serve the Vasa National Archives well until the next Grand Lodge Convention elects a new board.



IN TRUTH AND UNITY,  
BRUCE ELFVIN  
PRESIDENT VASA NATIONAL ARCHIVES

GREETINGS VASA SISTERS AND BROTHERS, It's been a busy quarter. Our annual summer fundraiser received lots of support, then Bill Lundquist's unexpected passing, adjusting to a new president, making plans for various events, searching out grants, and processing collections. We have done our best to move forward under these circumstances and maintain our standards during these past few months. Thank you to everyone that has supported our summer fundraiser and donated in memory of Bill Lundquist. Your support means a lot to us. Sheila has enjoyed receiving the Memorial Donation cards and messages you have sent to us. We have been passing to Sheila "love notes" (i.e. "He will be sorely missed") as they came in and keeping the donation amount secret. Bruce and I have been in routine contact as we adjust to each other and learn the other's expectations and goals. There doesn't appear to be any major changes coming in the foreseeable future that will affect the routine

functions of the Vasa National Archive. There's a couple of grants coming up in October that we will be applying for to continue the work on converting the microfilms to digital. We won't be asking for match funds for these grants, but any donations towards this goal helps show member support for converting the microfilms.

We are continuing to work on organizing and processing collections in the Vasa National Archives. At present, we have completed Grand Lodge materials, Districts No. 1 through No. 12, and pins and ribbons. We hope to have the districts completed and to have started on local lodge materials by the end of the year. In addition to working on processing collections,



Convention ribbons from DL MN No 7 by positions

we are also working on scanning Vasa Stars from the 1910s and placing them online. We try to save the Vasa Stars as searchable PDFs to make information

easier to find.

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

### Upcoming Events

**Butter Making** (Sept. 25-26, 10 - 5, during Jordbruksdagarna) Bishop Hill colonists, like many Swedes, were excellent butter and cheese makers. Stop by our booth in the Demonstration area to learn about butter making and make your own butter to take home.

**Make and Take Dala Horses** (Nov. 26- Dec 17, 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 Horse painting is \$5 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.

**Julgran Fundraiser** (Nov. - Dec.) Help make the Vasa National Archives financially stronger with a donation. All donors are welcome to decorate a paper ornament or more to be placed on the Christmas tree. If you don't have enough ornaments, feel free to make your own or ask for an ornament to be made. Towards the end of the Julgran Fundraiser (Dec. 3, 4pm - 9pm), the archive's Board celebrates with various friends and members. If you'd like to come, just let us know so we will have enough food and drink for everyone.

### William L. Lundquist, In Memoriam

William (Bill) L. Lundquist, 74, Past Grand Master Vasa Order of America, and President Vasa National Archives passed away on July 9, 2021 in Sister Bay, Wisconsin. Representing his home district, Lake Michigan No. 8, Bill served as a Grand Lodge Delegate in 2002. His twelve years of dedicated service to the Grand Lodge began in 2002 when he was elected Grand Lodge Executive Board member for the Midwest Region. He served as Chairman of the Youth

Committee during his 2002-2006 term. Bill was elected as Vice Grand Master, 2006-2010 and served as Scholarship Chairman. He achieved the highest office in the Vasa Order of America, Grand Master, 2010-2014. Having served several terms on the Vasa National Archives Board of Directors, Bill was elected President of the Vasa National Archives in 2014. Bill was born in Sturgeon Bay Wisconsin, attended Gibraltar High School, Spencerian College and,

later, Concordia University in Milwaukee. He proudly served in the United States Marine Corp from 1969-1975. In 1967, he married his high school sweetheart, Sheila Logerquist and they celebrated 54 years of marriage. He was a loving father to Onnika (William) Mitchell of Cincinnati, OH, Erika (Scott) Haddon of Grand Blanc, MI, and Marta (Andrew) Shaw of Harrison, MI and adoring grandfather to his eight grandchildren Benny Mitchell, Faith Haddon and Olin, Disa, Eliza, Oskar, Lena and Otto Shaw. Bill's career

began at Sears Roebuck & Co, working in Milwaukee, Sheboygan, and Green Bay, WI as well as Port Huron and Flint, MI. He later became a private business owner, retiring in 2014.

Bill served the Vasa Order of America in many capacities and had a positive influence on each. He served with kindness, generosity, and thoughtfulness. He will be remembered for his big heart and welcoming hand.



# GRAND LODGE NEWS

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

scheduled to take place before the new year. Hopefully, 2022 will return to normal for everyone both personally and in Vasa.

The Grand Lodge Convention scheduled for 1-8 July of 2022. It has a web page of its own and is up on the [vasaorder.com](http://vasaorder.com) page. Please review the hotel information and make your reservations as soon as possible. Owing to COVID-19, Marriott has managed to offer excellent room rates for the Philadelphia area.

I am sorry to have to report that we have lost a great Vasa leader, a good friend and mentor, PGM Bill Lundquist. Bill's passing leaves us speech-

less. He will be sorely missed. Bill's excellent management and leadership helped us through the terrible financial crisis; his years as our Grand Master were so very difficult for him but he was successful in his endeavors. Our prayers and condolences go out to his wife, PDM Sheila Lundquist. Bill served as president of the Archives at the time of his passing; Bruce Elfvin, VP, has stepped up to preside over necessary business. We thank Bruce for his service to the Order and the Archives. A very important date is coming up for Vasa members. Our organization will celebrate 125 years of existence on September 18th, 2021! Along with

that it will be the 100th anniversary of our oldest children's club, Barnklubben Elsa Rix #1, organized in 1921. New York District #4 is planning to celebrate both special anniversaries at their District Convention in November this year. If you would like to join the celebration, contact Jeanne Andersen for information. Please also congratulate Lodge Frihet #401, District #13 on reaching their 100th anniversary on October first 2021 – and Lodge Framåt #405, District #12 on reaching their 100th on 14 October 2021! We are honored to have so much to celebrate during this year and are so proud of such longevity in the Order!

In closing, a few words of encouragement about the future of COVID. Many scientific experts tell us the virus will increase in winter, but the big change between this and last winter is vaccinations. Fortunately, the number of vaccinations amongst the most vulnerable populations has been so extensive that hopefully we won't see lockdowns as in past. We all want and need to get back to normal where we can enjoy cultural events and social experiences together again with our usual Vasa enthusiasm!

IN GENEROSITY, TRUTH AND UNITY,  
ART BJORKNER, GM

## To Submit Motions to the 2022 Grand Lodge Meeting

The Grand Lodge Vasa Order of America will meet for its 40th Convention on July 2 - 8, 2022 at the Philadelphia Marriott Old City in Philadelphia, PA. It is not too early to start thinking about motions you want to submit for the changes you want to see happen within Vasa. You can find the Constitution on the Vasa web site: [www.vasaorder.com](http://www.vasaorder.com) or you can request an electronic (pdf) version to read on your computer or smart phone by emailing me at [vasajlg@aol.com](mailto:vasajlg@aol.com) and I will send it to you as an attachment.

Any individual member, local lodge, or district lodge may submit motions to the Grand Lodge meeting. An **individual member does not need approval from any local or district officer when submitting a motion to the Grand Lodge**. However, the local lodge secretary must certify (embossed with the lodge seal) that the individual submitting the motion is a member in good standing (dues are current.)

Please use the format provided on next page (5) when writing your motions. This will ensure a consistent appearance for the many motions to be considered. Please do not use the words "Whereas" or "Be It Resolved" or the motion will be returned to you for proper format. If you submit more than one motion, please put one motion per form to avoid confusion.

All motions must be typed or printed clearly, so that no errors in interpretation or intent will be made. All signatures are required, along with the appropriate lodge seal. Paper copy, together with certification of membership from Local Lodge sec-

retary, must be received by the due date of March 1, 2022. An emailed copy of the motion would be appreciated but does not replace the paper copy with signatures and lodge seal. Please email a copy of your motion/s to: [vasajlg@aol.com](mailto:vasajlg@aol.com).

When making a motion that involves finances, please show the probable cost along with the motion.

Remember that the Constitution and Bylaws use the words "shall" or "will", not conditional words such as "can", "should", or "could".

Recommendations included in any GL Officer's or Archives Board Member's report involving a constitutional change must follow these rules.

Please refer to the Constitution for Grand Lodge – Article XXII-Amendments concerning motions to change the Constitution.

You may submit your motions as early as you want. **ALL MOTIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE GS BEFORE MARCH 1, 2022.**

PROCESS: Motions will be numbered in the order in which they are received. Motions are not voted on based on their order received but are assigned to delegate committees for discussion. Then they are presented by the committee to the full Grand Lodge for vote. All Vasa members may attend the Grand Lodge meeting. While you will not have voice or vote, you may pass along your opinions to your district's delegate at any time outside of the meeting.

Mail your motions along with the lodge secretary's certification to:

Convention Motions  
Joan Graham, Grand Secretary  
5838 San Jose Ave.  
Richmond, CA 94804

and  
Email motions to: [vasajlg@aol.com](mailto:vasajlg@aol.com)

For an ELECTRONIC COPY of the Constitution or the Local Lodge Ritual, send an email to GS Joanie at [vasajlg@aol.com](mailto:vasajlg@aol.com).

For a PAPER COPY, send your order and a check payable to Vasa Order to: Vice Grand Secretary Marlene Patient, 337 River St., Leicester, MA 01524.

Constitution for Grand Lodge, District Lodge, Local Lodge (all three in one document) \$3.00 US for paper copy (includes postage)  
Local Lodge Ritual \$3.00 US for paper copy (includes postage)  
Complete Vasa Handbook (contains the above two documents plus the binder and Instruction Manual) \$14.00 US (includes postage)

The Constitution is also available on the Vasa web site: [www.vasaorder.com](http://www.vasaorder.com)

If you would like a copy of the Record of Proceeding from the 2018 Grand Lodge convention, which includes all minutes and reports, it is available by emailing me at [vasajlg@aol.com](mailto:vasajlg@aol.com)



Grand Lodge Secretary /  
Joan Graham

# CALLING FOR ADS IN THE 2022 VASA GRAND LODGE CONVENTION BOOKLET



Advertise your business, your Lodge, your well wishes for a great convention.

We can help with design and layout.  
**FULL PAGE: \$125 HALF PAGE: \$75**  
**QUARTER PAGE: \$45 EIGHTH PAGE: \$25**

Checks should be made payable to  
**NJ VASA DISTRICT 6**  
**Mail to: Bob Coleman / 945 Central Ave.**  
**Plainfield, NJ 07060**

Email your ads to Bob at [RJCTEACHER@gmail.com](mailto:RJCTEACHER@gmail.com)

## Sample formats for the submission of forms to the Grand Lodge

**Deadline for submission - March 1, 2022**

### SAMPLE FORMAT #1 – Motions Not Affecting Constitution

\_\_\_\_\_, Lodge, No. \_\_\_\_\_, Vasa Order of America, at its regular meeting on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, voted to submit the following motion:

**VOTED: That** \_\_\_\_\_  
**MOTIVATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Chairman (or District Master)

(Lodge or District Seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Secretary (or District Secretary)

(Date)

### SAMPLE FORMAT #2 – Constitutional Changes

\_\_\_\_\_, Lodge, No. \_\_\_\_\_, Vasa Order of America, at its regular meeting on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, voted to submit the following motion:

**To change the Constitution for \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge:**  
**Present Article \_\_\_\_\_, Section \_\_\_\_\_, Par. \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_ now reads:**

[state section as it now reads]

**MOTION is presented to CHANGE Article \_\_\_\_\_, Section \_\_\_\_\_, Par. \_\_\_\_\_ to read:**

[State section exactly as it will be written should the requested change pass]

**MOTIVATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Chairman (or District Master)

(Lodge or District Seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Secretary (or District Secretary)

(Date)

### SAMPLE FORMAT #3 – Motions made by Individual Members

**NOTE:** Motions submitted by individuals must include the format described below together with Sample Format 1 – motions not affecting the Constitution, or Sample Format 2 – Constitutional Changes, above.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, a member in good standing of \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge, No. \_\_\_\_\_, submit the following motion:

[Format as indicated above]

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (Typed Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (Address, City, State, Zip)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This is to certify that \_\_\_\_\_ is a member in good standing in \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge, No. \_\_\_\_\_ as of this date.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (Signature of Secretary)

(Lodge or District Seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (Date of signature)

Dear Vasa Friends,

Thank you for the hundreds of heartfelt cards and sympathy notes I received following Bill's sudden death in July. It was a terrible shock and I appreciate your kind, supportive comments. He touched hundreds of lives in Vasa and knew many of you by first name. He relished the opportunity to talk with you and visit your local and district lodges. Thank you to those who traveled so far for Bill's funeral especially Grand Master, Art Bjorkner and his wife Nancy, Past Grand Master, Rolf Bergman and his wife Marty and GLBM for the Midwest, Tom Cleveland and his wife Sue as well as many Vasa friends including DM No 8 Gene Kiesel and his wife, Dawn and Archives Board Member Emeritus, Sten Hult.

Thank you for the many bouquets of lovely flowers you sent and trees you donated in Bill's honor and thank you to all members, local lodges and districts across the US, Sweden and Canada who made generous donations on Bill's behalf to the Vasa National Archives in Bishop Hill. Bill felt that the National Archives was a treasure to be cared for wisely by the Order and I sincerely hope you will continue to support it generously. I look forward to visiting with many of you in the coming months and years.

Sincerely,

Sheila Lundquist,

Onnika (Bill) Mitchell, Erika (Scott) Haddon, Marta (Andrew) Shaw, Ben Mitchell, Faith Haddon, Olin, Disa, Eliza, Oskar, Lena and Otto Shaw.

## Sjölunden Language Camp Awards

The Grand Lodge is pleased to announce this year's Sjölunden Language Camp awards

Bertha Kalm Sjölunden Language Camp award was awarded to: Kajsa Woodger from Massachusetts Birka #732

Applications for next year's award **MUST** be post-marked by February 10, 2022. An application online will be available at [www.vasaorder.com](http://www.vasaorder.com) and in the next issue of the Vasa Star.

## Vasa questions?

Most questions can be answered by your district or regional officers. You're also welcome to send your questions about anything Vasa-related to

[vasajlg@aol.com](mailto:vasajlg@aol.com)

## Moving?

Be sure to send address changes to:  
[circulationvasastar@gmail.com](mailto:circulationvasastar@gmail.com)

# WINNERS OF THE 2021 SCHOLARSHIPS

The Grand Lodge is pleased to announce the winners of this year's College or Vocational School Scholarship Awards



**Liv Abrahamsen**  
*Olympic Lodge No. 235*  
*DL New York No. 4*

Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500  
 Liv begins her college education at Manhattan College where she is planning to study civil engineering. Liv received National Honor Society, Art Honor Society, English, and Spanish Honor Society as well as Science Honor Society during high school education. Liv joined Barnklubben Elsa Rix #1 at age 3 and has been active in the club to

this day. Liv joined the Vasa Order of America at age 14 and has been very active in her lodge and served as Lucia in 2017. She also has served on the District Lodge Installation Team during annual convention. Liv volunteers at her church vacation bible school, Sunday School Teacher, and tutor at her high school. Liv's future plans include a career as a civil engineer within the United States Air Force as an officer.

**Alexandra Bjorkner**  
*Sveaborg Lodge No. 446*  
*DL New Jersey No. 6*

Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500

Alexandra attends The University of Alabama, and is majoring in occupational therapy. She is on the Dean's List and is certified in Sensory Training for special needs. Alexandra has spent many summers with her Grand Parents, Art and Nancy at their home in New Jersey Vasa Park where she volunteers her time and resource. Alexandra is a member of the UAB Golden Girls Dance Team. She also volunteers at the Canterbury United Methodist Church working in the nursery. Alexandra's plans include obtaining a PHD in occupational Therapy and opening her own occupational therapy clinic.



**Aubrey Chelich**  
*Nordic Folk Lodge No. 761*  
*DL Lake Michigan No. 8*

Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500

Aubrey plans to study Architecture and Interior Design. She received a letter in choir and 3 chevrons at Munster High School IN. Aubrey has been a member of Nordikids dance club since 2008 and a member of the Vasa Order of America since 2017 where she has delighted her lodge in reading the Chaplains message in Swedish. Aubrey has attended Sjolunden Language Camp 3 times and is very proficient in the Swedish language. She volunteers at her church, studies piano and during the summer covid pandemic volunteered her time to the Northwest Indiana Mask Drive. This initiative provided 45,000 masks across Lake and Porter Counties. Aubrey is a true ambassador of The Vasa Order. Her passion for sharing in her Scandinavian heritage through music and art are evident in almost everything she does. Aubrey's future plans are to become an Architect.

**Emma Rose Chiarelli**

*Golden Valley Lodge No. 616*  
*DL Pacific Southwest No. 15*

Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500

Emma is attending The University of South Florida, Tampa where she is studying to be a physician's assistant. She has earned A/B honor roll in her first year. Emma volunteers her spare time to The Abiding Savior Lutheran Church and UF Health Rehabilitation Hospital, Coaching girls' gymnastics at the YMCA and an assistant to elementary school teaching. Emma is an accomplished competitive gymnast. She started competition at age 7. After suffering a major injury in 2019, Emma persevered through rehabilitation and earned an invitation to the Florida State Championship in 2020. Her future plans are to work in the medical field.



**Elizabeth Cleveland**  
*Viljan Lodge No. 349*  
*DL Lake Michigan No. 8*

Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500

Elizabeth is majoring in International and Comparative Politics and minoring in International Law at The American University in Paris. Elizabeth is on the Provost List for academic excellence. She is an active member of the Diversity



Club. She has been a member of the Vasa Order since age 14 and has served as delegate to her district lodge as well as attending national conventions as a guest. Her family has been very involved at Vasa Park in Elgin and her favorite memories are of Midsummer at Vasa Park. Even in Paris Elizabeth has made Swedish friends and attends midsummer celebration at the Swedish Institute. Elizabeth's future plans include pursuing a master's degree in the field of human rights and development.



**Matthew Cleveland**  
*Viljan Lodge No. 349*  
*DL Lake Michigan No. 8*

Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500

Matthew is attending The University of North Dakota where he is majoring in commercial aviation and unmanned aircraft systems. He serves on the University Student Aviation Management association, unmanned aircraft and remote-control club and has earned his private pilot's license. Matthew's family has a long-standing history of involvement with The Vasa Order. He has been attending local lodge meetings since he was a young child and continues to volunteer his time to Lodge Viljan. Matthew's future plans include a degree in commercial aviation and to become a commercial airline pilot.



**Alayne Victoria Denton**  
*Carl Widen Lodge No. 743*  
 Central Region

Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500

Alayne will begin her college education at Abilene Christian University where she will major in interior design and business. Alayne graduated from Academy High School and received National Honor Society, Academic All District Soccer, Academic All District Tennis and Honorable Mention-Soccer. She is serving as the President of Children of the Republic of Texas, a state wide organization with more than 2000 members. She manages a group dedicated to projects such as cleaning cemeteries, restoring monuments, and promoting patriotism. Alayne is highly regarded amongst her peers and is best described in two simple words, Commitment and Integrity. Her future plans include owning her own interior design company.

**Jakob Ekborg-Ott**  
*Faklan Lodge No. 248*  
 Central Region

Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500

Jakob will be studying Radiologic Science at Avila University in MO. In High School Jakob was a Rotary Exchange Student to Thailand for eleven months. He has been a competitive swimmer since age four and been a boy scout for many years. Jake has been an active member of Faklan Lodge since he was a young boy actively participating with Midsummer and Lucia festivals. He volunteers his time at the annual Julotta that is organized by a local church in his city. Jake enjoys sharing and promoting his Scandinavian heritage. His future plans are to work in the healthcare industry.



**Jessika Ekborg-Ott**  
*Faklan Lodge No. 248*  
 Central Region

Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500



Jessika will begin her studies in the field of Cyber Security. In High School Jessie received several art awards and the Red and Black scholarship. She also won several first-place ribbons in competitive swimming. Jessie has been an active member of Faklan Lodge participating with Midsummer and has served as Lucia on several occasions. She volunteers her time with Julotta Swedish and Norwegian festival with the Swedish Church in Kansas City. Jessie wrote a fine essay on her visits with family in Sweden and enjoys sharing her Scandinavian heritage and culture. Her future plans include operating a minority women business in the field of Cyber Security and Network Engineering.

**Alek Ekstrand**  
*Linde Lodge No. 492*  
*DL Lake Michigan No. 8*

Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500



Alek will begin his college education in Computer Science and Information Technology. Alek recently graduated from Mukwonago High School with a 3.4 GPA and perfect attendance record. He is a member of the MHS Information Technology Academy and has received his certificate indicating his proficiency in chosen strand of emphasis (software development). Alek also attends summer mission trips with St Leonard Catholic Church and School. Alek and his family have a long history of involvement in The Vasa Order of America. Alek started out in Skansen's Children's Club #113 where he performed in many Midsummer and Lucia Festivals. He became a member of Linde Lodge #492 where he is very active. As a Lodge member he works at many events, setting up, taking down, flipping pancakes and in the last few years has become the "In Charge Person" for credit card transactions. Alek's future includes a career in Information Technology and Software Development.

**Dmitriy Hess**

*Norden Lodge No. 684*  
*DL Golden Gate No. 12*

Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500  
 Dimitriy attends Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida. He has received honors from the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps, including Honor Company at his League Cadet Orientation and Unit Commendation at recruit training. He has also received Deans List Honors at Fresno College. In addition to his academic success, Dmitriy has been very involved in his local lodge during all of the holiday festivals. He attended



Sjolunden Language Camp and presented a report to his lodge upon completion. His plan after graduation includes a commission in the United States Navy as an Officer and to fly large transport aircraft. After retirement he plans to fly commercial airlines and start his own flight school.



**Niklas Eliasson**  
*Skandia Lodge No. 549*  
*DL Alberta No. 18*

Ellis F. Hillner Scholarship, \$1,500

Niklas attends The College of the Rockies in British Columbia where he is studying medicine/nursing. Nik is highly regarded by his educators at Rock Mountain who speak to his hard work ethic and determination through the obstacles 2020 presented. Niklas has been a member of Skandia 549 and lived in Vasa Park since he was a young boy. Nik has been very active serving as counselor to the Children's Camp as well as working around Vasa Park. Niklas also has a passion for his favorite hobby photography. Nik's future plans are to work as a nurse in palliative care or anesthesiology.



**Isabel Houser**  
*Astor Lodge No. 215*  
*DL Pacific Northwest No. 13*  
 Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500

Isabel will begin her college education in the field of Art. Isabel is a member of the National Honor Society, received Academic All-Star Award (3+years), Choreographers Choice Award, Most Improved Actor, and Directors Choice Awards. Isabel is Co-Editor of her school yearbook. She is a member of the local thespians group where she is a seated council member. In addition to her artistic endeavors she also excelled in College Algebra, Trigonometry, Advance Placement Calculus and Differential Calculus. Izzy has been active in Astor Lodge participating in the Astoria Scandinavian Festival and Youth Counselor at Swedish Summer Camp (4 years). Her future plans include pursuing her passions in art and completing a graphic novel series in hand drawn comic or animated show.



**Brayden Neill Jaeckle**  
*Carl Widen Lodge No. 743*  
*Central Region*  
 Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500  
 Brayden is active in Carl Widen Lodge where he assists his Grandmother in setting up for Vasa events and special meetings. Brayden hopes to own his own company in real estate development providing affordable housing.

Brayden will begin his college education in Business and plans to move in to Law School and study traditional law. Brayden graduated from Alamo Heights High School in San Antonio where he received the following awards National Merit Scholar- Commended, AP Scholar with Honor, National Spanish Exam, Bronze Medal, National Honor Society, National Spanish Honor Society, Prep Hoops Ranking #8 Point Guard, Team Captain AHHS/Select Teams, All Varsity Basketball, Academic All-District Basketball and All Honor Roll 4 years. He is ranked #2 in his class of 390. Brayden has achieved the highest rank in Boy Scouts "Eagle Scout".

**Annabel Johnson**  
*Viljan Lodge No. 349*  
*DL Lake Michigan No. 8*  
 Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500  
 Annabel begins her college education in the field of Biomedical Engineering. She graduated from Huntley High School with National Honor Society, Huntley High School Good Citizen of the Year Award, Principals Leadership Committee and is a member of the Engineering Academy. Annabel and her family have a long history of involvement in The Vasa Order of America. She joined Forgat Mig Ej Childrens Club in 2008 where she learned traditional folk songs and dance. She also joined the Swedish American Childrens 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 major in Biomedical Engineering to improve prosthetics, do tissue research engineering to help slow disease progress and to travel abroad with Engineers Without Borders to help people in underdeveloped countries.



**Grace Johnson**  
*Bishop Hill Lodge No. 683*  
*DL Lake Michigan No. 8*  
 Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500

Anna is studying at Portland State University and plans on completing her master's degree after graduation with a double major in Sociology and Art History. Her future plans include finding a vocation in an art gallery or art museum. Anna is fluent in three languages (English, Norwegian and German), having lived and attended schools in both Norway and Germany. Anna has worked as museum assistant at the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art at PSU and is very highly regarded by the operations managers there. Anna is active in Nobel Lodge 184 and routinely volunteers her time and resource.



**Catherine Johnson**  
*Viljan Lodge No. 349*  
*DL Lake Michigan No. 8*  
 Edith Gauch Trust  
 "Klinglof Scholarship", \$1,500

Catherine is attending Illinois State University where she is studying Education. Catherine has been a member of Vasa since 2017 and previously participated in the children's clubs since age seven. She currently works as a mentor in the club. Catherine volunteers many hours to various groups and tutoring underprivileged elementary school students. She is currently President of the ISU Poise Dance Team. Her plans include completing her degree and working in school systems with underprivileged children.

Grace attends Butler University, Indianapolis, IN. where she is majoring in psychology. This year Grace became an Butler Honors College Member and earned the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizenship Award, the Gallon Card with Mississippi Valley Blood Center and the John Phillips Sousa Band Award. Graces family has a very long history in Bishop Hill Lodge where Grace has served as Lucia. Grace helps with the lodge pea soup and pancake dinners and is very highly regarded by her fellow lodge members. Grace even attends Vasa meetings with Svea Lodge 253 in Indianapolis while she is away at school. Grace plans to work as a therapist in social work and psychology.



**Anna Kienberger**  
*Nobel Lodge No. 184*  
*DL Pacific Northwest No. 13*  
 Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500



**Benjamin Kramer**  
*Linde Lodge No. 492*  
*DL Lake Michigan No. 8*  
 Bo and Sigrid Bjorling  
 Scholarship, \$1,500

Ben is studying at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut where he is a member of the Scandinavian Society. Future plans include a master's degree and eventually working as an educator of music and language. Ben

worked as a language teacher and counselor at Sjolunden, Concordia Language Village virtual camp in 2020 and was instrumental in starting a virtual "Camp Sjolunden". Ben also worked as volunteer course contributor and forum moderator for the popular language education platform Duolingo where his work has allowed him to directly impact 1.2 million people learning Swedish through this platform. Ben is an active member in his local Vasa Lodge where he has and continues to serve as a leader of the children's activities. Ben is dedicated to his Vasa work in preserving and promoting our culture and heritage.

**Julia LeKander**  
*Viljan Lodge No. 349*  
*DL Lake Michigan No. 8*  
 Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500

Julia attends Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo where she is studying Fashion Design and Development. She has earned Dean's List Honors and President's List. Julia has a long involvement in The Vasa Order of America with a very keen interest in folk music and dance. She is a past member of the Swedish American Choir performing at Scandinavian Day at Vasa Park in Elgin, IL alongside Nordik Folk Dancers of Chicago. She has been an active member of Viljan Lodge since 2013 and has presented several programs including rosemailing demonstrations. She is a true ambassador of Swedish Folk Dance, Music and Scandinavian Culture. Julia's future plans include a career in the fashion industry and she hopes one day to work for The Finnish Design Brand, Marimekko, or Acne Studios Clothing Brand in Stockholm, Sweden.



**Sophie Martinez**  
*Phoenix Lodge No. 677*  
*DL Arizona No. 21*  
 Irma and Knute Carlson  
 Scholarship, \$1,500

Sophie is studying at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN. She has focused on her passion for language and global studies. Sophie has studied violin for eight years and piano for twelve. She is currently studying organ with Dr. Chad Winterfeldt at Gustavus Adolphus College. Sophie has been involved with

The Vasa Order beginning at age four where she was a member of Tucson Lodge 691s Barn Ringen Children's Dance Group. She performed every year at the Tucson Meet Yourself fair and Nordic Fest. She has participated in Lucia Fest since her earliest recollections for both Phoenix Lodge 677 and Tucson Lodge 691 and was crowned Lucia of Tucson 691 in 2017. She hopes to become a counselor at Sjolunden where she has attended nine previous summers. Her future plans include Scandinavian studies and working with people with special needs, helping animals and learning more about global culture.

**Eden Ladouceur**  
*Pioneer Lodge No. 506*  
*DL Rhode Island No. 3*  
 Einar and Edith Nilsson  
 Scholarship, \$1,500

Eden is attending Roger Williams University in Bristol, RI where she is studying forensic science. Eden has made the Dean's List in all three semesters this year. Eden has been appointed by Pioneer Lodge to serve as representative at Little Rhode Vasa Park and has contributed many hours of service to her local and district lodge. Eden's mother (Robyn) is currently District Master and her father (Jim) is a PDM and current DL Secretary. Eden's future plans are to obtain a degree in forensic science and then apply to medical school and complete a residency and fellowship in order to become a medical examiner. This will require fifteen years of schooling and training.



**Elsa Lorieul**  
*Olympic Lodge No. 235*  
*DL New York No. 4*  
 Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500

Elsa is attending The University of Louisville where she is studying equine business and management. Elsa has a vast working knowledge in thoroughbred horse racing. She also has immersed herself in training and other aspects of the industry and plans to further her career through her pursuit of equine and business management. Elsa has been a member of Elsa Rix #1 folkdance group since age 6 and serve as Lucia in 2018. She became a member of the Vasa Order at age 14. She has participated in countless Swedish events in the metropolitan NY area and has also served on a District Lodge level as an installing team officer. Elsa was awarded the prestigious title of Miss Sweden Day this year. Elsa has contributed an enormous amount of work and resource to the Vasa Order and is an accomplished folk dancer.



**Lillian Nelson**  
*Viking Lodge No. 735*  
*DL New Jersey No. 6*  
 Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500

Lillian will be studying Biology/ Marine Biology on Pre-Veterinary track. She received National Honor Society, AP Scholar with Honor, Just Poetry Winner (Twice awarded) and is the Art and Literary Magazine Published Poet and Editor. Lillian also performs in her school orchestra (viola) and serves as the orchestra librarian.

She is Co-President of Scholastic Scrimmage, Co-President of the Art and Literary Club, a Grace Church Choir member and a volunteer for the Pediatric Cancer Foundation of Lehigh Valley. Lilly is active and participates in her local lodge meetings and has been a long-time worker at Viking Lodge food booth at Scanfest. The largest Scandinavian event on the Eastern Seaboard with over 4000 attendees. Lilly's future plans are to become a Veterinarian.



**Audrey Westlund**  
*Nordik Folk Lodge No. 761*  
*DL Lake Michigan No. 8*  
 Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500

Audrey plans to devote her studies to Engineering. She has received the College of William and Mary Leadership Award, Lettered in Academic Excellence/ Choir. She is recognized in Junior Honor Guard (top 5%) has been selected to the National Honor Society. Audrey has also been selected to Mu Alpha Theta, National English Honor Society, National Science Honor Society, and International Thespian Society. Her extracurricular activities include volunteer work with Our Savior's Way Lutheran Church on mission trips to Puerto Rico, distributing food to less fortunate people and Raise Against Hunger Events. Audrey is very passionate about her involvement with The Vasa Order and speaks very strongly about the influence our organization has played her life. She hopes someday to become an engineer for "Disney"



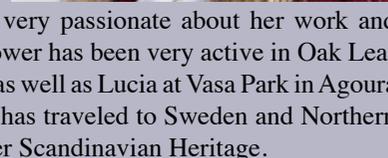
**Flower Vandervelde-Person**  
*Oak Leaf Lodge No. 685*  
*DL Pacific Southwest No. 15*  
 Grand Lodge Scholarship, \$1,500

Flower attends Chapman University in Orange, CA. where she studies Animation/ Character Design and Creative Writing. She has received the Dean's Scholar and is described by her professors as being an "Incredibly Gifted and Talented Animator". Her manager at the Edwards Theater in Calabasas describes her as having "The most amazing work ethic I've ever encountered". She is very passionate about her work and devotes all her time to her studies. Flower has been very active in Oak Leaf Lodge and has been a camp counselor as well as Lucia at Vasa Park in Agoura Hills for three years in a row. Flower has traveled to Sweden and Northern Europe and is a true ambassador of her Scandinavian Heritage.



**Hannah Westlund**  
*Nordik Folk Lodge No. 761*  
*DL Lake Michigan No. 8*  
 Gladys and Russell Birtwistle  
 Scholarship, \$1,500

Hannah attends Longwood University where she is studying Education. Hannah is President of her sorority and President of the Student Organization. She is highly regarded by her professors and colleagues. Hannah is a Peer Mentor at Longwood University, she also volunteers with Operation Smile (group treasurer), Our Savior's Way Lutheran Church mission trips, Rise Against Hunger which provides meal packages with worldwide distribution. Hannah is a youth volleyball volunteer, coaching in a recreational league. She is also involved in Lead Player Development, Team Dynamics, Sportsmanship and Mutual Respect. Hanna's plans include pursuing a master's degree and becoming a teacher.



**Hannah Zabe**  
*Olympic Lodge No. 235*  
*DL New York No. 4*  
 Oscar & Mildred Larson  
 Scholarship, \$1,500

Hannah has been accepted to The University of Pittsburgh- Greensburg Nursing Program. Hannah attended Monmouth Regional High School and their vocational nursing program. Hannah and her family have a long history of involvement in The Vasa Order of America. She joined Barnklubben Elsa Rix at age three and has performed in countless Midsummer and Lucia events. She joined Olympic Lodge at age fourteen and has served as Lucia, been extremely active in her lodge, and served on installation teams for local lodges as well as her District Lodge. Hannah will minor in Swedish and hopes to join "Fikaklubb" with students interested in Scandinavian language and culture. She also wants to become a member of the Scandinavian Society of Western PA and the Scandinavian Folk Dancers of Pittsburgh. Hannah's future plans include completing her degree in Nursing and to work in a Children's Hospital.



**The Grand Lodge**

**2022 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.*

*Applicants for the above scholarships must have become a Vasa member prior to February 15, 2021.*

*Applications are available at the Vasa website until January 15, 2022.*

*To be eligible, the following items must be postmarked no later than February 15, 2022 to be considered.*

1. Completed application with enclosures MUST be postmarked no later than 15 February 2022.
2. Complete "OFFICIAL" transcripts of grades through the first half of the senior year for high school students or fall semester of current academic year for college students.
3. Current passport style photo headshot (at least 4"x6") or email a digital headshot photo vgm@vasaorder.org
4. A letter of recommendation from applicant's Local Lodge with date of initiation.
5. Letters of recommendation from two personal references dated within last 6 months.
6. A letter of reference from your Dean, Principal, Teacher or Counselor, dated within last 6 months.
7. An original, typed essay, not to exceed 1,000 words. Cannot have been submitted in prior years.

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

**Choose an essay subject from the following list:**

1. What do you consider to be role youth can and should play in Vasa?
2. If you have visited a Nordic Country, what was the most impressive element of your visit and why?
3. How has traditional Swedish Music and Folkdance influenced your involvement with The Vasa Order?
4. What is your favorite Scandinavian Holiday and how has it been passed through your family?
5. Describe an individual that has influenced your involvement in The Vasa Order of America
6. Within the Nordic countries, choose what a most popular tourist attraction is, and provide your thoughts on its appeal.
7. What Nordic invention appeals to you in being most important to mankind and why have you selected this?

**AWARDS ARE PAYABLE TO the institution in which the student is enrolled or accepted for enrollment. To qualify for the College or Vocational School Scholarship, a 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.**

**John Hanright,**  
 Vice Grand Master  
 47 Scandia Rd.  
 Hackettstown, NJ 07840

Phone: (973) 262-2412  
 E-mail: [vgm@vasaorder.org](mailto:vgm@vasaorder.org)

## DISTRICT LODGE NEWS

### DL No. 8 Lake Michigan

PAST DISTRICT MASTER, WILLIAM “BILL” LUNDQUIST, has passed away. Your District Board advised all Lodges of his passing on July 9, 2021. Bill was a 40 year member of the Vasa Order of America. He served the Viking Lodge 730 as Treasurer, Vice Chairman, and Chairman for many years. He and his wife Sheila, were there whenever there was work

to be done. He served our District as a Delegate, Master of Ceremonies, Executive Board Member, Vice District Master, and District Master. He was also an active Past District Master. He was a Delegate for our District to the Grand Lodge. Of course, from there he served the Grand Lodge in many leadership positions, all the way to serving as the Grand Master from 2010

– 2014, and was currently President of the Vasa National Archives. He not only served the Vasa Order of America, but was a member of Elks-Flint Lodge #222 where he was a 37 year member. He was active in his church and was a member of the Lions Club of Sister Bay, and the American Legion Post #527. He also loved his golf. He will always be remembered as a loving family man, known for his kindness and generosity. If you have been active

in District Lake Michigan No. 8, you probably met Bill, worked with Bill, or even were one of Bill’s many friends. He touched so many Vasa members, and of course many others also. District Lake Michigan No. 8 is proud to have had William “Bill” Lundquist as a member and our leader. His Big heart and warm personality will always be remembered!

SUBMITTED BY GENE KIESEL, DM AND GREAT FRIEND

### DL No. 19 Norra Sverige

## Liten Blåklocka / Little Bluebell—Sweden’s National Flower

During the spring, the small Bluebell was chosen as Sweden’s national flower. More than 80,000 people took part in the vote, which in the end named the little Bluebell the winner with 14,000 votes. Small Bluebells are common throughout the country on dry open, unfertilized fields and is considered a characteristic species in the old agricultural landscape. It can also be found in the mountains. It is described as a thin, perennial

flower (normally about 20 cm/8”) and grows in sparse tufts with hanging bell-shaped blue flowers. The leaves are characteristically spade-shaped and the flowers are visible from July to September. (Source: Svenska Botaniska Föreningen / Swedish Botanical Society)

SUBMITTED BY CHARLOTTE BÖRJESSON



## 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.

### CALIFORNIA

**GERDA STYRMAN**, Our beloved member of North Star Lodge passed away on April 13, 2021, in San Juan Capistrano, California at the age of 97 years old. Gerda joined North Star Lodge No. 106 in January 8, 1963. She was at her passing the oldest member of North Star Lodge. Gerda was born in Sweden and is survived by her daughter Linda, grandchildren and her sister Göta. All her friends in North Star Lodge will miss her greatly.

### OHIO

**DOROTHY BROZ**, (nee Johnson), age 92, was born 01-28-1929 and passed away 06-03-2021. She joined Nobel-Monitor No. 130 on 09-12-2010. She is survived by three children. Dorothy was fun-loving and compassionate. Her positive attitude and sense of humor were appreciated by all.

### WASHINGTON

**DORIS DEL CIELLO**, born and raised in Monroe, Washington. Her deep appreciation of her Swedish heritage was deeply rooted in her life. She was a contributing member of Vasa lodges for 60+ years, currently a member of Frihet No. 401. She leaves behind her husband Del, children, grandchildren, and cousins in Sweden. Many will miss her.

### WISCONSIN

**MARION BRUCE**, (Nee Molis), 96, passed away 05-14-21 in Goodman, WI,

born 08-20-1924 in Ashland, WI. She married Kenneth Bruce in 1947. Marion is survived by children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and other family and friends. An involved member for 52 years in Linde No. 492, and everyone will miss her very much.

**NORBERT MANCHESTER**, found peace and is reunited with his wife, Ethel, on August 10, 2021, age 99. Born May 24, 1922 and the loving dad of two daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Linde No. 492 member since 1983, and will be dearly missed by us all.

**KAY NICKOLETT**, (Nee Johnson) passed away 08-03-2021 in New Berlin, WI, born on 08-04-1938, in Milwaukee, WI. A Linde No. 492 member since 2008. Health issues prevented her to attend meetings and events. She left children, grandchildren and great grandchildren behind. We will miss this sweet lady.

### SWEDEN

**MARY DAHLSTRÖM**, we have the painful duty to announcing her death at age 98. Mary was a member of LL 714 Filbyter but has in recent years lived in Gothenburg near her son. Mary has been both a great youth leader and a district youth leader and holds the Helga Hoving medal. Mary cared a lot about young people and exchanges with USA. A woman who was always happy, and involved in many different associations, she enjoyed traveling, both in Sweden and to the United States, and she had friends around the world. We’re so grateful to have met Mary and felt the warmth she spread. Thank you for all the bright memories. Thank you for everything you gave.

# LOCAL LODGE NEWS

## Thule No. 127

JAMESTOWN-FALCONER, NY / The lodge continues to preserve Swedish heritage through event and activities. Thule held the "Midsommar" tradition of a Swedish meal of Swedish meatballs, shrimp, rice pudding, red potatoes, cucumber salad, lingonberries, deviled eggs, bread, hard tack and strawberry shortcake. Sandra Sandy created flowered head bands for all. The Thule dancers gave a dance performance while music was provided by Kathy Petersen, Cheryl Ritch, and Donald Sandy. A good time was had by all. The entire event was organized by treasurer Loretta Smith and membership chairman Bernice Veights. Tom Eckberg is the lodge



Midsommar music Kathy Petersen, Cheryl Ritch, and Donald Sandy.

chairman, and Susan W. Sipos is the vice chairman. Cultural leader Mary Ann Eva Ingrao gave the Swedish blessing prior to the meal. Chaplain Diane Shaw gave the opening and closing invocations. Thule Lodge is into its 114th year. "God dag" to all.

SUBMITTED BY JOHN SIPOS, LODGE HISTORIAN

## Bessemer No. 203



Kimberly Murphy celebrated her 35th birthday with the family. Standing: her mother Susan Nilsson and grandfather Bruno Nilsson. Sitting: her grandmother Britt Nilsson and the birthday girl, Kimberly with baby, McKenna Britt

OAKLAWN, IL / Our members have been busy celebrating; learning Swedish and about Sweden. Members are grateful that they have been able to get their vaccinations. In December, 2020, the Nilsson-Murphy family welcomed McKenna Britt Murphy into the family. The lodge congratulates Susan Nilsson and David Kroll, who were married on April 3, 2021. In May and June we



Mateo Torres, High School graduate - Congratulations, Mateo!



Congrats to Susan Nilsson and David Kroll on your marriage.

celebrated graduations; Mateo Torres, son of Bessemer member Angie Torres graduated from Minooka High School in Minooka, IL, and Jenae Poke graduated from Troy Middle school. Another event in June - Swedish Day - was held in Good Templar Park, Geneva, IL where we celebrated Father's Day, and Midsommar. It was a warm and cloudy day.

SUBMITTED BY CHRISTINE KILSTROM

## Linne No. 153

SOUTH BEND, IN / We had a small meeting in April, with only several members attending. There was a Swedish meal served by Beth Wood followed by a discussion on Saint Knut Day and Saint Walpurgis Night. We initiated a new member, Mary Lou Elder. In May lodge met and had a smorgasbord, and had guest speaker. Pastor Ken Peterson gave a program on bee keeping. He keeps several hives and our group learned a lot about the hobby. Sadly, we lost a dear member, Marlene Westergren. She was a piano teacher for sixty years and it was said that their home was always filled with beautiful, classical

piano music. She was our Chaplain and loved her Swedish heritage. Her husband, Gordon, just had a ninetieth birthday at the assisted living facility where he currently resides. Gordon has recently retired from his position as treasurer but will still attend meetings via Zoom. June 6th Linné Lodge had a grill out and we made hamburgers. There was potato salad, Jell-O, chips and strawberry shortcake. We had planned to play Kubb but once again it was too warm and humid. During our meeting we initiated two new members, John and Delores Miller!

SUBMITTED BY RON WOOD

## Norden No. 233

TACOMA, WA / We have been enjoying a very dry but beautiful summer here in Washington. We have been able to get together for a Midsummer party where we had some traditional Midsummer foods. There were also several options for us the month of June for Midsummer events. Several of our members went to Rochester, Washington for Swede Day and watched the parade and ate Meatballs for lunch. It all seems to happen at the same time so it is difficult to choose.

In August we had our annual picnic. We always have a lot of fun swimming, a pontoon boat ride, good food and conversation. We laughed a lot and got caught up. We also celebrated Mats "Fritz" Grahn's - 70th year of citizenship in America! We look forward to regular meetings starting in September. We meet at 1 pm the first Saturday of the month at The Sons of Norway, Normanna Hall in Tacoma. Come join us!

SUBMITTED BY JEANETTE WIGGINS



Two lovely Norden ladies in costumes, Gena Cole and Mona Butler.

## Tegnér No. 149

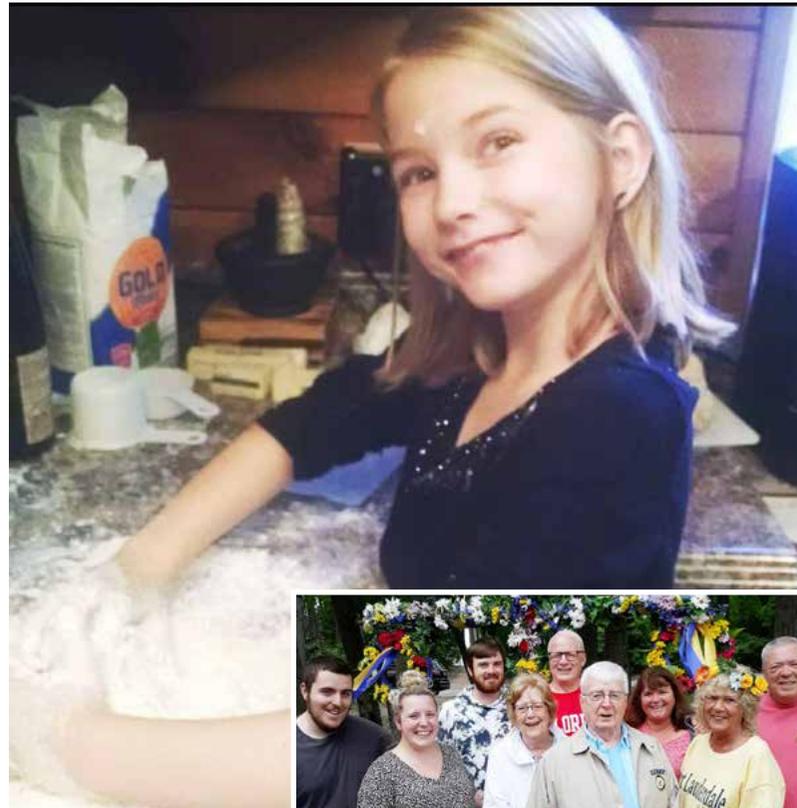
OAKLAND, CA / During the pandemic lodges in District 12 have been exchanging Zoom information so that members can attend other Lodge meetings if they desire. In April Tegner lodge No.149 continued to hold virtual meetings. After checking in with all members and guests present, Kitty Hughes, our co-cultural leader gave a wonderful presentation on the VASA National Archives at Bishop Hill. In May, Jesse Lane a Tegner Lodge No.149 member gave a wonder presentation on the three years he spent on trips to the Northwest trying to obtain movie footage of Big Foot.

SUBMITTED BY KENNETH WEISSENBORN

## Svea No. 296

ERIE, PA / Relatively new Svea Lodge 296 member Sarah Larson learns from Marge Johnson about the Erie, Pa. viking ship float that was built by members years ago for a parade and what fun all had. Then, we toured Marge's rhododendron bushes her late husband Harry planted and tended. It was a wonderful day of remembering. Nearly forty members from SVEA #296 and Nobel Monitor (Cleveland) lodges celebrated Midsommar with good food and fellowship at Presque Isle State Park in Erie, Pa. on Saturday, June 19. At Midsommar, Montie Collier, with his wife Shirley and family was honored and formally thanked for serving the lodge over the years in so many ways. Our Lorraine Johnson is so awfully proud of her granddaughter Penelope Denelsbeck receiving the GL scholarship to the Sjolunden language camp. Svea met at the home of Lorraine Johnson for the 25th rain-free picnic Kräftskiva on August 14 attended by 30+ who enjoyed the day, the crayfish, and a young fiddler who provided entertainment.

SUBMITTED BY GARY LARSON



Above: Penelope Denelsbeck is "Going to Language Camp"!

Inset: Montie Collier (front center), with wife Shirley and family was honored and thanked.



## Svea No. 348

SAN JOSÉ, CA / In May, twelve Svea members attended the "hike", which was really a lovely stroll and lunch at Filoli Gardens in Woodside, California. Filoli was built in 1915 for William Bowers Bourn II, owner of one of California's richest gold mines and president of Spring Valley Water supplying San Francisco's water. Filoli, also known as the Bourn-Roth Estate, is a country house set in 16 acres of formal gardens surrounded by a 654-acre estate, located about 25 miles south of San Francisco, on the eastern slope of the Santa Cruz Mountains. The name of the estate is an acronym formed by combining the first two letters from the key words of William Bourn's credo: "Fight for a just cause; Love your fellow man; Live a good life". Alma Johnson, a Swedish immigrant, was the cook at the estate for nearly 20 years. The estate certainly hearkens back to the time when fortunes were made via 'steel, brick and mortar' style industry unlike the transistors and software of today's high-tech industry.

SUBMITTED BY JACK KNUTSON

## Nordic No. 611

WORCESTER, MA / On May 20th, Nordic Lodge held their meeting at the Scandinavian Athletic Club in Shrewsbury, MA with about 45 members in attendance. A memorial service for the 11 members that passed in the last two years was very somber, yet beautiful. Delegates and Alternatives were chosen for the DL Convention to be held at Terrazza Ristorante at Greenfield Country Club. It is sponsored by Viking Lodge No. 756 and Brage-Iduna No. 9 on September 19th. Our Cultural Leader Nancy Schultzberg gave an interesting

talk on Roald Dahl, author of many best selling children's books. The 118th Midsummer festival was held at SAC club in Shrewsbury, MA. With 3 weeks to prepare, Swedish National Federation, with the help of Nordic Lodge members, served almost 400 meatball dinners! We had beautiful weather, a group of Vikings walking around, great musicians, vendors, tombola, and most important raising the midsummer pole and dancing. We had strawberry shortcake and coffee for our last meeting of the summer on June 17, when we always have a good showing.

SUBMITTED BY ÅKE JANSSON



EB member Ake Jansson (in blue) and DM Esther Johnson help at Midsummer sale at SAC Park.



A friendly passer-by snapped the photo of the twelve Svea #348 'Hikers'.

## Austin No. 466

CHICAGO, IL / This past spring World Nordic News celebrated its five year Anniversary, and it is the publication of Austin lodge. We had a recent article in the summer issue about Swedish journalist Cats Falck's death in 1984 by Stasi. Other articles include Business Sweden and Central Asian Business

Alliance, Sweden's new Ambassador to Vietnam, and Sweden hosting talks the US and North Korea on nuclear talks in 2019 in Stockholm. In 2022, one of the four quarterly issues will be expanded to 14 or 16 pages. In 2020 major upgrades took place; redesign cover, expanded to 12 pages, and better pictures, maps, and graphs.

SUBMITTED BY FRANK BENNETT ROWDER

## Linde No. 492

MILWAUKEE, WI / After our return to live meetings in April, the May meeting doubled our attendance, and PC Brent Erickson presented Friluftsliv. He covered all possible outdoor activities, the equipment and clothing to use. The Swedish saying of “there is no bad weather, only bad clothing” should encourage us to spend time outside year-around. Conversation continued while having open face sandwiches and coffee. In June a few of us got together at a Soccer bar where a match between Sweden & Ukraine was shown in the UEFA EURO-cup. Unfortunately, Sweden lost. Also in June, our biggest festivity Midsommar, took place. Such a nice day, with great helpers for the maypole, spectacular dancing, games, food, flowers, etc. In August we had a very casual Sunday get-together at a Beer-Garden. Not great attendance (due to rain & storms earlier, and more to be expected), but a few came and had a fun time. Looking forward to our Crayfish party on August 28, our Scandinavian Day field trip on September 12, and meeting with programs in October (TBD) and November presenter will give us a history on the beloved Dalahäst. We will bring in our Dala-animals for a show and tell. Join us any time you can make it to our area.

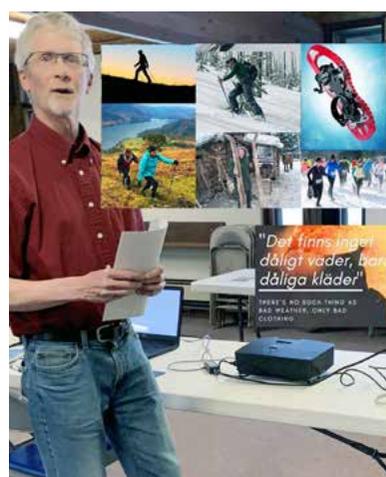
SUBMITTED BY LIZA EKSTRAND



Fun day with lodge members Brent and Jean Erickson, Liza and Rolf Ekstrand, Marianne Ekstrand, and Elaine Johnson at a Beer-Garden.



Midsommar – dancing around the maypole by our Norwegian friends Lykkeringen Dancers.



Friluftsliv program/presentation by Brent Erickson.

Right: June Hess (Dmitriy's grandmother) & Dmitry Hess receiving his Grand Lodge Scholarship Award.

## Norden No. 684

FRESNO, CA / We are extremely proud to announce our member, Dmitriy Hess, has received the following Vasa Scholarship Awards; \$1,500.00 from Grand Lodge, \$1,500.00 from Golden Gate District No. 12, and \$500.00 from Norden Lodge No. 684. Dmitriy will be attending Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Florida. Upcoming Norden Lodge events (Please join us): September 4th: The 53rd Anniversary Lunch at Cattlemen's Restaurant in Selma, Ca. October 2nd: Draping of the charter for dearly departed members; Frances Johnson, Leona Rice, Monica Shipley & Ted Hess. December 11th: The Annual Lucia Pageant. Please phone Norden Historian Carole Ann Sell for details at 559.623.9588.

CAROLE ANN SELL



Marching the May Pole down the street to the colony School .

## Bishop Hill No. 683

BISHOP HILL, IL / Bishop Hill VASA Lodge No. 683 celebrated its Midsommar (after a year off, because of COVID 19) on June 26th, 2021 at the Colony School. What a wonderful day it was for MidSommar, we had music in the park all day. At 4:00pm it was time to put greens and flowers on the May Pole, many people were in the park to help. Again this year, Ernie Sanquist played the accordion and Chris Fredrickson and her daughter Marie were leading the songs. We danced many ring dances, Små Grodorna, Musikanter, Karusellen and the Rocket. What a wonderful time we had. With the help of many VASA members the day was a great success.

SUBMITTED BY JEFF ANDERSON

## Phoenix No. 677

PHOENIX, AZ / Our lodge is still in limbo with our meeting place for September. Hopes remain high that we will be able to hold a regular get-together after our long hiatus from meeting in person. At this time, one bright occasion in our Lodge is the upcoming birthday, on September 4, of our esteemed long-time member, Elna Lidman, who will be celebrating her 100th birthday on that day. Such an occasion does not take place every year, and we want to take this opportunity to wish Elna the happiest of birthdays, along with our most heartfelt wishes accompanying this year's remarkable event. May you have a cornucopia of good health, and keep on doing the things you like with gusto. It is hard to follow such an announcement, but looking to the future, election

of officers will take place in October as we plan to have our Jul Bazaar in November, and our most cherished yearly event, the Lucia fest, is on the agenda in December. In the meantime, the Board will continue to hold their meetings via Zoom. All future dates are at the whim of COVID.

SUBMITTED BY ROMY SOLOMONSON



Congratulations to Elna Lidman on her 100th birthday September 4.

## Tucson No. 691

TUSCON, AZ / Valborgsmässoafton and Tucson 691's 50th Anniversary were combined this year in a western party honoring our Nordic wild west heritage. Thirty attendees, dressed as cowboys and cowgirls, arrived early and eagerly greeted each other at a joyous reunion, after a five-month hiatus. Tucson offers a special "Tack så mycket" to Dennis and Susan Nordeen for open-

ing their wonderful "dude ranch" to us. Odani Keiko serenaded the guests with a large repertoire of western music, Nordic songs, and schottisches. In true Valborgsmässoafton tradition, a fire was lit and songs filled the air as guests gathered around the crackling campfire. Odani accompanied the singers on the accordion. As the sun was setting, guests enjoyed their Nordic and western traditions.

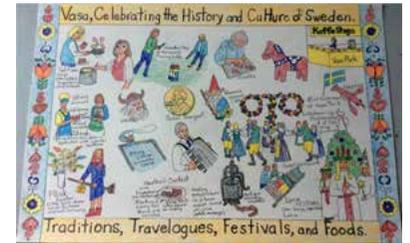
SUBMITTED BY GAYLE ANDERSON



Tucson No. 691 50th Anniversary on Valborgsmässoafton.

## Glenn T. Seaborg No. 719

LAGUNA WOODS, CA / Inspired by the arrival of the 2022 Swedish calendar featuring Scandinavian Folk artist Pieper Bloomquist, we explored her art available on YouTube. This style was popular in Sweden from 1773-1850. In Dalarna, it was called Dalmålning and a slightly different style in Småland was called Bonadsmålning, or tapestry painting. Plates and furniture were



Panel of lodge activities over the year designed by Pieper Bloomquist.

The purpose of this painting was to tell a story and illustrated Bibles are a good example. Upper class residents paid artists to paint their walls with stories of local lives. Panels included swags, ribbons, flower bouquets and words. Pieper loves storytelling. Inspired, she created a pictorial story about the small town where she grew up. She interviewed residents in a retirement home about their favorite childhood memories. Drawing a panel of stories, she had residents paint the panel which is now hanging in the retirement home for all to enjoy. Creativity blossomed and led to a panel about activities our lodge participates in. On 12" x 18" paper, each member had fun coloring their own panel. When a prospective member wants to learn more about joining Vasa, we have a colorful invitation to show them. Lodges interested in presenting a program on Pieper Bloomquist and Swedish Folk Art, can request a black and white panel to reproduce and color.

SUBMITTED BY NANCY KINGSTON

## SWEDISH NEWS

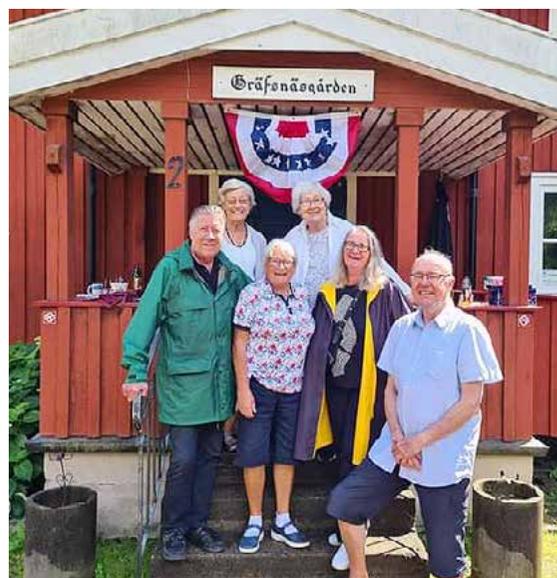
### Göteborg No. 452

GÖTEBORG, SWEDEN / Logen Göteborg har genomfört en handfull arrangemang utomhus under vårens trista men nödvändiga covid - restriktioner. I maj samlades logemedlemmar på Villa BelParc för en uppskattad lunchträff. Både Sveriges Nationaldag den 6 juni och USAs 4th of July markerade vi i Slottsskogen vid den gamla men välskötta herrgården Gräfsnäsgrården för knytkalas. Gräfsnäsgrårdens trevliga uteplats har nästan blivit logens tillfälliga hemvist under pandemin. I juli arrangerade vi en båtutflykt till Brännö i Göteborgs södra skärgård. Logemedlemmen Anny Jakobsson, fastboende på ön, mötte oss vid bryggan. Efter en kort promenad i strålande väder kom vi till hennes fina hem med stor trädgård. Vi bjöds på fika, berättelser om öns historia och uppiggande salt havsbad. Öns äldsta innevärdare och logemedlemmen, Elvy Jacobsson, anslöt sig också. Nu har det gått drygt 1-1/2 år sedan vi hade en traditionell logesammankomst i Ordenshuset på Bellmansgatan. Då myndigheterna tillåter att max 50 personer nu får träffas så har styrelsen beslutat att i september genomför vi den första logesammankomsten på mycket länge. Äntligen! Då ska vi bl.a. hälsa fem nya medlemmar välkomna.

SUBMITTED BY TORSTEN OLSSON

### Skåne No. 570

MALMÖ, SWEDEN / Å vilken sommar! Längtan till Italien förbyttes mot utmaningen att semestra inom Sveriges gränser. Solen sken över oss som aldrig förr. Medelhavsländerna drabbades av bränder och översvämningar, medan svenskarna upptäckte nya smultronställen inom landet. De skånska badplatserna fylldes till bristningsgränsen med parkeringskaos som följde. Campingstugorna blev fullbelagda. Många har under isoleringen skaffat sig hundvalp, som kräver sin särskilda plats längs



På farstuvisten till Gräfsnäsgrården - Från vänster Peter Ranemark, Gunnel Svensson, Charlotte Börjesson, Monica Olsson, Margareta Ruthagen, Torsten Olsson.

stränderna, när så många blivit hundrädda eller allergiska. Vasa går fortfarande på parlåga. Dock har Styrelsen kunnat träffas utomhus i BR Ordförandes trädgård. Med anledning av USAs Nationaldag samlades ett glatt gäng på Bulltofta för korvgrillning och quiz på temat Amerika, ihopknäpat av Sy KL Marianne Andersson, som dessutom stod bakom kameran. Vinnarna av quizen, Marie & Olle Wickström förärdades välförtjänt diplom och amerikansk hatt. Fler trevliga foton finns på <https://www.vasaorden570.com/reportage/2021/2021-07-05>. Oktobermötet stundar 1/10 och novembermötet 13/11. Jubileumsfirande, med anledning av att LL Skåne fyller 90 år i september, kommer att diskuteras vid kommande styrelsemöte. Vi ser också fram emot DL20 Distriktsmöte 15-17 oktober. Besök Logen Skånes egen hemsida för att ta del av bilder, reportage, nyhetsbrev mm. .

SUBMITTED BY MARIANNE ANDERSSON



Quizvinnarna Marie & Olle Wickström, Bengt-Arne & Gull-May Åstradsson, och Kerstin Ekström bakom Olle.



Marianne Andersson klädd i fin amerikansk klänning.

## SWEDISH NEWS

### Tomelilla No. 631

TOMELILLA, SWEDEN / Äntligen eller vad man kan säga egentligen om detta sista dryga år. Nu när vi är vaccinerade kan man börja träffas igen, givetvis med full respekt med avstånd m.m. Vi i Logen Tomelilla nr. 631 har haft 2 st. styrelsemöte under sommaren ute i stortält hos Sy Britt och Br. Gert Lantz i Blentarp i deras fina trädgård för gå igenom allt som komma skall. Det har varit givande och trevliga dagar. Nu ser vi verkligen fram att få träffas i höst på våra logemöte. Men innan dess bjöd Logen på korvgrillning i vårt härliga naturreservat Fyledalen som ligger vid Tomelilla söndagen den 15 augusti. Det var en solig, härlig dag då vi såg 26 st Logemedlemmar komma till vår fina natur. Det blev många diskussioner om allt möjligt och det hördes att vi tyckte det var trevligt att träffas igen. Nu ser vi alla framemot våra "vanliga" Logemöten som skall börja i September med efterkapitel skaldjursafton med sedvanlig frågetävling i parken och nytt för detta året är att vår egen Sy Marianne Ekholm Gunve som skall berätta om sina böcker.

SUBMITTED BY GULL-MAY ÅSTRADSSON



Grill dagen i naturreservatet Fyledalen.

### Höganäs No. 634

HÖGANÄS, SWEDEN / En av de första vackra dagarna i maj kommer vi att minnas ett bra tag framöver! Då kunde vår loge träffas för första gången på en evighet, utomhus, på ett coronasäkert sätt. I parken bakom Scoutstugan i Väsby dukades borden upp med ordentligt avstånd, grillen tändes och korv och bröd smakade helt fantastiskt. 45 medlemmar njöt av det strålande solskenet och den trevliga samvaron. När alla var mätta och belåtna frestade

Sy Anna-Brita oss med en tipsrunda i parken med många kluriga frågor. Br Niels blev bäst med alla rätt! Efter tipsrundan bjöds det på kaffe med Sy Ingers hembakta kakor och som pricken över i tog Br Leif fram gitarren och underhöll oss med sång och musik. Nu ser vi fram emot att åter få träffas under hösten. Våra närmaste planer är att ha ännu en utomhusträff i augusti då var och en tar med en kaffekorg för gemensam fika och den arrangerande



Br Niels tar emot sitt första pris av Sy Berit och Sy Anna-Brita.

gruppen bjuder på underhållning. I september hoppas vi kunna hålla vårt första logemöte sedan pandemin bröt ut, och i början av oktober får vi äntligen fira vårt 65-årsjubileum, som vi fick ställa in förra året. Förhoppningsvis med många egna medlemmar och gästande Ordenssyskon från andra loger. Med förhoppning att allt ska återgå till det normala igen, så att vi åter får träffa våra Vasasyskon..

SUBMITTED BY BERIT OCH HANS BOGREN

## STORMÄSTARENS MEDDELANDE

KÄRA VASAMEDLEMMAR, Jag hoppas alla njutit av sol och långa varma dagar under våra sommarmånader. Om jag ska vara helt ärlig hade jag klarat mig bättre utan den gångna sommaren— efter en omgång med Covid-19 och sedan två nya knäleder inopererade med efterföljande fysioterapi och sedan mina två covid-vaccineringar. Vilken sommar! Min tillvaro fick sig en kunglig smäll och min personliga entusiasm gick tillfälligt neråt.



Det har varit en stor glädje att se lokallogerna arrangera möten igen, inomhus såväl som utomhus beroende på var de är belägna. Det känns tungt att så många distrikt inte kunnat hålla officiella möten men jag kommer delta i de som nu planeras före årsskiftet. Förhoppningsvis kommer 2022 att erbjuda en återgång till det normala för oss alla personligen och för Vasa.

Under de senaste månaderna har en

medlem givit en avsevärd donation till vårt arkiv. Donatorerna föredrar att vara anonyma. Vi är dem stort tack skyldiga eftersom deras generösa gåva stöder arkivets framtid.

Storlogens sammanträde som är planerat för den 1 - 8 juli, 2022 har en egen websida och information om mötet kan också ses på logens huvudsida: vasaorder.com Se över informationen om hotellövernattning så snart som möjligt och gör era bokningar. Delvis med anledning av Covid-19 har Mariott lyckats erbjuda bra rumspriser för Philadelphia.

I den här utgåvan hoppas jag alla blir glada och stolta över de många ungdomar som erhållit stipendier. Det är helt fantastiskt! Vi är alla entusiastiska över våra stipendieters akademiska framgångar och hyser förhoppning om att de ska komma att bidra starkt till Vasaorden i framtiden.

Det smärtar mig att meddela att vi under sommaren förlorat en stark ledare, en vän och en mentor i före detta Storlogemästaren Bill Lundquist. Bills bort-

gång kom som en chock och han lämnar ett stort tomrum. Hans utomordentliga styrning och ledarskap hjälpte oss igenom den finansiella kris vi gick igenom; hans år som Storlogemästare blev enormt krävande för honom men han lyckades med alla sina svåra uppgifter. Våra tankar, böner och medkännande går till hans hustru, f.d distriktsmästaren Sheila Lundquist. Bill verkade som ordförande för arkivet vid sin bortgång; vice ordföranden Bruce Elfvin har nu tagit plats för att överse arkivets löpande affärer och vi är tacksamma för hans arbete för logen och arkivet.

Vi har i år ett viktigt datum för samtliga medlemmar. Vår orden firar 125 år den 18 september 2021. Samtidigt firar vår äldsta barnklubb, Barnklubben Elsa Rix #1, som grundades 1921, hundraårsjubileum. Distrikt No. 4 New York kommer att fira bägge händelserna i samband med sitt distriktsmöte i november. Om du vill ta del av firandet ska du kontakta Jeanne Andersen. Kom också ihåg att gratulera Lodge Frihet No. 401 i distrikt 13 som

också firar sitt hundraårsjubileum den första oktober i år liksom Lodge Framåt som fyller 100 år lite senare, den 14 oktober 2021. Vi känner en ära över att ha så mycket att fira under året och är stolta över den livskraft vår orden uppvisar.

Slutligen vill jag säga några uppmontrande ord om framtiden med Covid. Det är många experter som säger att virusmittan kommer att öka igen till vintern men den stora skillnaden mellan denna och föregående vinter är vaccinationer. Lyckligtvis har andelen vaccinationer bland de mest utsatta varit så omfattande att vi förhoppningsvis inte behöver genomleva nedstängningar av det slag vi tidigare sett. Vi vill och behöver alla komma tillbaks till en normal tillvaro där vi kan uppleva kulturevenemang och sociala arrangemang tillsammans och då, som alltid, med vår sedvanliga Vasa entusiasm.

MED GENEROSITET, I SANNING OCH ENIGHET,  
ART BJORKNER  
STORMÄSTARE