

THE VASA STAR



Vasastjärnan

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2009



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



The Grand Master's Message



Rolf Bergman

Vasa brothers and sisters!

Welcome back after the summer season! Did you have a chance to see the Jul/Aug issue of the Vasa Star which can only be found on the Vasa website, www.vasaorder.com. If not, please take a look at it if you have internet capability and if you do not have the ability to do so maybe someone could print it for you.

Our summer was interesting as both Marty and I attended our separate 50th high school reunions in Terre Haute, IN and Two Harbors, MN, respectively. We also travelled to Sweden for the second time this year to visit my family, but took the opportunity to attend the Swedish American of the Year celebration in Karlstad and Filipstad. I appreciate the effort of the two Swedish districts in arranging this wonderful event through the newly formed Swedish American Center in Karlstad. It was also a pleasure to see Anne Charlotte Harvey, past GL Cultural Director for USA and Canada and colleague on the board of the Swedish Council of America, receive the honor as this year's Swedish American.

The 2010 GL Convention Committee from DL Pennsylvania No. 9 has been working hard in the last few weeks finalizing plans and events for the convention set for July 2-8, 2010 in Washington DC. You will find an introduction, schedule of activities and a registration form in these pages. The information will be provided, with updates, in every issue from now until the convention. Notice that the committee has decided, with my blessing, to move the tour of Mt. Vernon, originally considered for Friday, to Tuesday. This means that the business session is reduced from four to three days, but I believe this is doable. It leaves more time for our members and delegates to see our nation's capital. The same information will be available on the Vasa website, where, in addition, you can fill in the form and email it to the appropriate person as well as pay the registration, banquet and tour fees by credit card, if so desired.

The items – sweatshirts, greeting cards and “Dalahäst” lapel pins – that the District are selling as a fund raiser for the convention – which we have taken to many district conventions already – are now available through the order form found in this issue of the Vasa Star. They are also available on the Vasa web, where credit cards will be accepted for payments. Please support DL Pennsylvania No. 9 by purchasing some of these items. They make great gifts!

You should have received the Vasa Education stamp packet in the mail by now; if not it will be coming shortly. Please consider making a generous donation to the Education Fund. My letter included in the packet indicates the ways your donation makes an impact on our youth. In addition I have the pleasure of using one of my photos for the stamp image. Thanks to Tore Kellgren, GLEBM, Western Region, who designed the stamp from the picture.

In these pages you will also see the notice, posted by VGM Bill Lundquist, that the GL Executive Board made the decision to cancel scholarships for 2010. This decision was made necessary

by losses in our scholarship funds. We thought we had rather safe investments in US government securities, but last year's financial crisis decreased their values by about 10 percent. While it is difficult to ask for donations when we are saying that no scholarships will be given, it is also very important that we rebuild the base on which we can continue to give these award. Thus your donations to the stamp fund are more important than before.

Vasa Syskon!

Jag önskar er hjärtligt välkomna tillbaka efter detta års sommar säsong. Har ni haft tillfälle att läsa juli/augusti upplagan av Vasastjärnan, som ni endast kan hitta på nätet, under www.vasaorder.com? Om inte, ta och titta på den om ni har tillgång till internet och om ni inte har den möjligheten, kanske ni kan be någon att skriva ut den till er.

Vi hade en intressant sommar eftersom både Marty och jag deltog i våra respektive 50-års jubileum från Gymnasiet (High School) i Terre Haute, Indiana och Two Harbors i Minnesota. Vi reste också till Sverige för andra gången i år för att besöka min familj, men tog tillfället i akt och deltog i firandet av Årets Svenskamerikan i Karlstad och Filipstad. Jag uppskattar allt arbete som de två svenska distrikten gjorde för att arrangera detta fantastiska evenemang genom det nybildade Sverige Amerika Centret i Karlstad. Det var med nöje vi fick se Anne Charlotte Harvey, före detta SLKL för USA samt Kanada och som kollega i styrelsen för Svenska Konsulat i Amerika, bli utsedd till Årets Svenskamerikan.

SL Konventets kommitté för 2010 från DL Pennsylvania Nr 9, har arbetat hårt under de senaste veckorna för att slutföra alla planer och evenemang inför konventet som kommer att hållas mellan den 2 - 8 juli, 2010 i Washington DC. Ni kommer att finna en introduktion, ett schema över aktiviteter och ett registreringsformulär på sidorna som följer. Denna information kommer att uppdateras i varje upplaga från och med nu fram till själva konventet. Notera att kommittén har bestämt, genom mitt samtycke, att flytta vår utflykt till Mt. Vernon, som ursprungligen skulle ske under fredagen, till tisdag. Detta betyder att mötesförhandlingarna kommer att hållas i tre dagar i stället för fyra, men jag tror att det blir bra. Det ger våra medlemmar och delegater mer tid till att se och uppleva vår nations huvudstad. Samma information kommer att finnas tillgänglig på Vasas hemsida, där du även kan fylla i formulär och skicka som e-post till den person som är ansvarig. Här kan ni också betala för registreringsavgiften, banketten och utflykter med kreditkort, om ni vill.

Vid det här laget borde ni ha fått Vasas utbildningsfrimärken, om inte, bör de komma snart. Betrakta denna donation som mycket viktig och skänk generöst till utbildningsfonden. I paketet innehållande frimärken har jag skrivit ett brev som handlar om vilken effekt din donation kommer att ha på våra unga. Dessutom har jag nöjet av att få använda en av mina egna foton till bilden på frimärket. Ett stort tack till Tore Kellgren, GLEBM, Västra regionen, som designade frimärket.

Published by:
Vasa Order of America
vasaorder.com

HEADQUARTERS:

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

Grand Master:

Rolf S. Bergman
3236 Berkeley Avenue
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118
Phone: 216-371-5141
Fax: 216-274-9664
E-mail: rolf.bergman@sbcglobal.net

Editor:

Marie Carlson
9560 Curberry Drive
Mentor, OH 44060
Phone: 440-255-4665
E-mail: mariec@swedes-r-us.com

**Circulation Manager:
(Address Changes)**

Cathy Anderson
13194 N. Woosnam Way
Oro Valley, AZ 85755
Phone: 520-219-9433
E-mail:
circulationvasastar@gmail.com

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

Membership Chairman:

Tore Kellgren
5971 W. Walbrook Drive
San Jose, CA 95129
Phone: 408-996-1970
E-mail: tore@kellgren.org

Orders for advertising should be sent to:

THE VASA STAR
Marie Carlson
9560 Curberry Drive
Mentor, OH 44060
Phone: 440-255-4665
E-mail: mariec@swedes-r-us.com

Advertising Prices:

Full Page Black and White	\$500.00
Half Page Black and White	\$275.00
Quarter Page Black and White	\$150.00
One Column Inch	\$ 30.00
Half Page Color	\$500.00
Full Page Color	\$800.00

Available only for inside front cover, inside back cover or back cover.

10% discount for Vasa Lodges and Members

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

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Vasa Star, P.O. Box 69997, Oro Valley, AZ 85737-0025.

AN IMPORTANT REMINDER

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

For submitted Lodge articles, please add city and state. Thanks!

AUDIO-VISUAL DIRECTOR

Todd Anderson

1383 Middlebrook Way • Rohnert Park, CA, 94928

Cell Phone: (707) 694-1345

E-mail: audiovisual.vasaorder@yahoo.com

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

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

CORRECTION

Scholarship Recipient member Stephanie Lunt is shown as being a member in DL Pacific Northwest #15. That should read DL Pacific Southwest #15.

Submitted by: Henning Andersen DLPSW#15

Dear Reader,

I am looking for a distant relative, Erik Gran. Erik also had a brother. I don't know his name but he married a Chinese woman and maybe lived in Los Angeles.

I would welcome any information sent to me.

Thank You!

Address:

Jerker Barås

Tuv vägen 7, 2tr

136 34 Handen

Sweden

Deadlines for The Vasa Star:

- Jan./Feb. is Dec. 1st
- March/April is Feb. 1st
- May/June is April 1st
- July/Aug. is June 1st
- Sept./Oct. is Aug. 1st
- Nov./Dec. is Oct. 1st



Deadline for Christmas ads is October 15

Deadline for Lucia articles is December 24

Picture and article, 200 words or less.

Price for Xmas Greetings – \$30.00 column inch

Cover:

Mr. Ruben Madsen, President of the Surströmmings Academy, shows a typical surströmmings meal at Ulvön's fishing village on the island of Ulvön on the east coast of Sweden.

Ruben Madsen, Ordförande i Surströmmings Akademin, visar hur man vanligtvis dukar upp till surströmmingskalas vid Ulvöns fiskarby på ön Ulvön på östkusten.

Submitted by: Erik Hansson, Logen Sundsvall #705

Letter from the Editor



I am writing this Editorial on the first day of fall. It does not look or feel like fall since it is warm and very humid.

Our summer in Sweden was fun and the calendar got filled up pretty much as soon as we set foot on Swedish soil. The first couple of days we spent time in the Stockholm archipelago on one of its estimated 42 000 island, *Stora Norrholmen*, to be more specific. This was our very first experience with the Stockholm archipelago; hopefully it won't be the last!

Besides spending time with family and friends, I also had a chance to be part of this year's *Swedish-American Award* celebration in Karlstad and Filipstad that honored Ann-Charlotte Hanes Harvey. It was also a wonderful opportunity to meet many I have had contact with as Editor of The Vasa Star.

Since the Jul/Aug 2008 and 2009 issues have only been published on the web, many of my contributors to The Vasa Star waited for this issue to submit articles, so I had a lot of material to choose from. I have a certain number of pages to work with, so some of the articles that I received will have to appear in a later issue.

In August and September we have two very special culinary celebrations; you can attend *Surströmmings parties* (Fermented Herring) and *Crayfish parties*. On the cover you see a display of a typical *Surströmmings meal*, and under Swedish Lodge News, *Logen Sundsvall Nr 705* you can read about how this very peculiar meal came about.

There are many articles I find interesting in this issue so you just have to read them all and see for yourselves. I do want to mention our *Birthday* section with our amazing "birthday girls;" can you even imagine what they have experienced in their lifetime? They managed to keep alive the Swedish traditions despite our changing world!

Marie

"Traditions are group efforts to keep the unexpected from happening"

- Barbara Tober

Brev från Redaktören

Jag skriver denna ledare på höstens ankomstdag. Det ser, eller känns inte som höst, eftersom det fortfarande är varmt och fuktigt.

Vår sommar i Sverige var härlig och kalendern blev fylld i princip så snart som vi satte fot på svensk mark. De första dagarna spenderade vi i Stockholms skärgård på en av dess beräknade 42 000 öar, *Stora Norrholmen*, för att vara mer specifik. Det var vår allra första upplevelse av Stockholms skärgård och jag hoppas det inte blir den sista.

Förutom att umgås med familj och vänner, hade jag också tillfället att närvara vid firandet av *Årets Svenskamerikan* i Karlstad och Filipstad, tillägnad Ann-Charlotte Hanes Harvey. Det var också ett underbart tillfälle att träffa många kontakter som jag har genom att vara redaktör för Vasastjärnan.

Eftersom Jul/Aug 2008 och 2009 upplagorna endast publicerats på nätet, har många bidragsgivare till Vasastjärnan väntat på denna upplaga för att skicka in sina artiklar, därför har jag haft mycket materiel att välja från. Jag har ett visst antal sidor jag har att arbeta med, så några av artiklarna kommer att finnas med i en senare upplaga.

I augusti och september har vi två mycket speciella kulinariska firanden, då kan man gå på *Surströmmings kalas* och *kräftsaktivor*. På omslaget kan ni se ett typiskt *Surströmmings mål* uppdukad och under Swedish Lodge News, *Logen Sundsvall Nr 705*, kan ni kan läsa om hur detta mycket säregna mål kom till.

De finns många intressanta artiklar i denna upplaga, så ni får läsa igenom alla och se för er själva. Jag måste nämna vår *Birthday* sektion med våra fantastiska "födelsedagsbarn;" kan ni ens föreställa er vad de varit med om under deras livstid? De har lyckats hålla de svenska traditionerna vid liv trots att vår värld ständigt förändras.

Marie

"Traditioner är grupp försök till att förhindra det oväntade från att hända"

- Barbara Tober



PAGE 17

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Archives News.....	5
Swedish Language Lesson 19	6
Grand Lodge News	7
Grand Lodge Convention	
GL Scholarship program update	
Raffle winners	
Activity Schedule	
Registration form	
GL Convention Items for sale	
Grand Secretary's Report	
Campaign Results	
Summer Seminar for Youth Clubs	
District Lodge News	14
Lodge News	18
Swedish Lodge News	25
Family	29
Birthdays	
New Babies	
Wecome To Our New Members	30
Culture	31
Memories of Sylvia, the White Princess	
Happenings.....	32
Årets Svensk-Amerikan 2009	
Årets Svenska Kvinna 2009	
Setterdahl Receives Award	
JUNK Rock Opera	
In Memoriam.....	Inside Back Cover



PAGE 23

ARCHIVES NEWS

Obituaries: Accurate and Complete

Do you ever think about what your obituary is going to say? [Hmmm, let's see . . .] From an archival and genealogical standpoint it is the moment when good amount of detail about a person is printed and made accessible. On a bit of pedantic tear, last column was about labeling photos, and now we are moving on to improving obituaries in the Vasa Star. We'll change the world, one column at a time. You all handed us this bully pulpit, we are going to use it.

Why do the Archives care about the obituaries in the Vasa Star? Well, before telling you, let us introduce you to a wonderful volunteer who helps us input membership data. Her name is Marie Norlen and she lives in Moline, IL. Marie drives the forty miles out to Bishop Hill most Thursdays, sits down at the computer, and starts clicking away. A retired secretary at John Deere and Co., she works with amazing efficiency and accuracy. We cannot thank her enough—her efforts have expanded and improved the database tremendously.

The membership database forms a core set of records, but it is incomplete because the National Archives has not existed the entire lifetime of Vasa nor has there always been a standardized path for membership information to reach the Archives. [Job security, says Marie.] Nonetheless, it is our most serious hunt to populate the membership database to reflect as best it might the entire membership of Vasa since its beginning. If we ever do achieve a complete membership database, we can ask Marie to help out with another area of the Archives. She does not need to worry about working her way out of a job.

We find that the obituary section is a reliable source for membership information, but whereas we most often can transcribe exactly what we are looking for from them—name, town of residence, birth place and date, death place and date, and local lodge affiliation—the obituaries sometimes can be remarkably empty of this factual information.

Apropos of getting it right, Marie and I are both fans of "A Prairie Home Companion," where Garrison Keillor suggests hiring an English Major to write your obituary, so that this permanent record of your life is written in a clear and elegant way. We laugh maybe a little too loudly at his idea, because we read a lot of obituaries and know how awry they can go from their ostensible goal. Putting a really nice polish on your obituary would be no small guilty pleasure, but seeing somebody butcher it is hard to take, even lying in the grave.

The Vasa Star obituaries are typically short, but at a minimum we respectfully request that you include the following: 1) lodge name and lodge number, 2) birth date and death date, 3)



Marie Norlen, daughter of Swedish immigrant, volunteers at the Vasa National Archives.

birth place. Elegance is perhaps best saved for the long obituaries that appear in the home town newspaper. In a short obituary space like

the Vasa Star's, the essential facts become the most important.

Submitted by: Lars Jenner, Archivist



Do you want to find your Swedish roots?

I can help you. I am a professional genealogist and member of Svenska Släktforskarförbundet, specializing in Swedish research. As an expert in Swedish graphology and history, and with great experience of several genealogical databases I can help find your ancestors in Sweden. At best I will be able to trace your ancestors: date of birth, place of birth parents, date of marriage, profession, date of death, and cause of death.

According to your wishes I will compose an individual genealogical table for example with four generations (300 USD), five generations (500 USD), and you will of course get full documentation of all sources presented and delivered both in graphical layouts and tables.

Please contact me on e-mail: swedengen@telia.com and I will send you more information.

Jan Lindström
Member of Vasaorder of Amerika
Logen Calmare Nyckel Nr 628, Sweden

Swedish Language Lessons

by Lillemor and Richard Horngren

LEARNING SWEDISH – LESSON 19

We are hoping that you had a wonderful summer and got everything done that you had planned. For those of you who have Internet connections, you can check the July-August issue of the Vasa Star by using our order's website www.vasaorder.com.

However, if you were looking for the Swedish language lesson, we, in co-operation with the Vasa Star editor, decided not to include it in that issue. The main reason is that many of our students do not have access to a computer and are sometimes reluctant to ask for help in printing out what can be found on the "net."

So in order to make every lesson available to all who receive the printed Vasa Star, we gave you all a summer break from studying. Although, we are hoping you did take some time to check on the earlier lessons.

Our family in the lessons did have their anniversary dinner and all went well until it was time to do the dishes.

Lillemor and Richard

NYA ORD

att tacka, tackar, tackade, tackat	to thank (for something)
gick	went
vardagsrum, -met, ---	livingroom
titta på	watch
att lyssna, lyssnar, lyssnade, lyssnat	to listen
gick med på (idiom)	agreed to
bekväm, bekvämt, bekväma	comfortable
fåtölj, -en, -er	easy chair
varsin	each with
såg fram emot (idiom)	looked forward to
skön	pleasant
kväll, -en, -ar	evening
efter en stund (idiom)	after a while
att undra, undrar, undrade, undrat	to wonder
varför	why
tyst	quiet
kök, -et, ---	kitchen
att kolla, kollar, kollade, kollat	to check
tomt	empty
stod kvar	was left
spis, -en, -ar	stove
stekpannan, -n, stekpannor	frying pan
ett par	a couple
kastrull, -en, -er	saucepan
att läsa, läser, läste, läst	to read
tidning, -en, -ar	magazine, paper
att spela, spelar, spelade, spelat	to play
korgboll	basketball
att diska, diskar, diskade, diskat	to wash dishes
göra rent	clean up
titta på varandra (idiom)	look at each other
att rycka, rycker, ryckte, ryckt	to shrug
axel, -en, axlarna	shoulder
att bestämma, bestämmer, bestämde, bestämt	to decide
bråk	row, quarrel

rengöra	clean
att sopa, sopar, sopade, sopat	to sweep (with broom)
efter att tag (idiom)	after a while
blev tvungna	were forced to
dela upp	delegate
äntligen	finally
njuta	enjoy

SVENSKA/SWEDISH

Ingrid och Erik tackade för den goda maten och gick in till vardagsrummet. Ingrid ville titta på sitt favorit program på TV men Erik ville att de skulle lyssna på radion. Han sa att Stockholms Opera skulle presentera Trollflöjten. Det gick Ingrid med på.

De satt i sina bekväma fåtöljer med varsin bok och såg fram emot en skön kväll. Efter en stund undrade Ingrid varför det var så tyst i köket. När hon kollade var köket tomt. Allt stod kvar på bordet. På spisen stod stekpannan och ett par kastruller.

Karin Helena låg på sin säng och läste en tidning. Lars Olof var ute och spelade basket med grannens pojke.

Ingrid bad dem att komma in till köket. Hon undrade vem som skulle diska och göra rent. Barnen tittade på varandra och ryckte på axlarna. Erik föreslog att Karin Helena och Lars Olof själva skulle bestämma vem som skulle göra vilket arbete.

Det tog inte många minuter förrän det hördes bråk från köket. Karin Helena ville inte rengöra spisen och Lars Olof ville inte sopa golvet. Efter ett tag ville ingen av dem göra något.

Så föräldrarna blev tvungna att dela upp arbetet så att det blev gjort och de kunde äntligen njuta av operan på radion.

ENGELSKA/ENGLISH

Ingrid and Erik thanked for the good food and went into the living room. Ingrid wanted to watch her favorite program on TV but Erik wanted them to listen to the radio. He said the Stockholm Opera was going to present the Magic Flute. Ingrid agreed to that.

They sat in their comfortable easy chairs each with a book and looked forward to a pleasant evening. After a while Ingrid wondered why it was so quiet in the kitchen. When she checked, the kitchen was empty. Everything was left on the table. On the stove were the frying pan och saucepans.

Karin Helena was lying on the bed reading a magazine. Lars Olof was outside playing basketball with the neighbor's boy.

Ingrid asked them to come into the kitchen. She wondered who was going to do the dishes and clean up. The children looked at each other and shrugged their shoulders. Erik suggested that they themselves should decide who should do which job.

It did not take many minutes until a row was heard from the kitchen. Karin Helena did not want to clean the stove and Lars Olof did not want to sweep the floor. After a while neither of them wanted to do anything.

So the parents were forced to delegate the work so that it would get done and they could finally enjoy the opera on the radio.

GRAND LODGE NEWS

2010 Grand Lodge Convention

The convention committee has been working hard in planning the events of the 2010 Grand Lodge Convention scheduled for our nation's capital, Washington DC. The convention hotel is the Marriott at Metro Center, right in the center of Washington. From this hotel you can walk to the Smithsonian and other Museums on the Mall in ten minutes. Or you can walk to the White House or Washington Monument in the same amount of time. Don't want to walk. Then you can get a ride on the Washington Metro, accessible within a few hundred feet of the hotel entrance. On the Metro, you have access to all of Washington and its surroundings.

The first thing to notice is that the convention is one day shorter than those in the recent past. In part this reduction by one day was motivated by the fact that Independence Day fell on Sunday, both which are usually free days. The other motivation was the need to be careful of costs both for the host district as well as the delegates. We had originally thought to have a post conference tour to Mt. Vernon, home of first president George Washington, but have now opted to shorten the business sessions by one day – with the blessings of the Grand Master – and have moved the Mt. Vernon tour to Tuesday. This tour is for everyone including GL officers and delegates.

The convention opens with a 'dessert' reception on Friday evening, July 2, at the Marriott. The reception is free to all registered, courtesy of DL Pennsylvania No. 9, the DL host for the convention. You will love the entertainment we have planned; the Vasastjärnan Youth Club from DL New Jersey No. 6, sixteen young people who will do some well-rehearsed Swedish dancing. By the way the youth club will also present the flags during the opening ceremony on Saturday.

Please look at the full activities schedule in the following pages of the Vasa Star. Also find a registration form and a page advertising items that DL Pennsylvania No. 9 has for sale as an effort to help fund the convention. Note that this information is also available on the Grand Lodge website, where you also have the option of purchasing items and registering for the convention using a credit card.

We will write more details concerning tours and the grand banquet in the next few issues of the Vasa Star.

Submitted by:

Rolf Bergman, Grand Master

C. Richard Overberg, Grand Treasurer and Convention Chair

GRAND LODGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE

The drastic turndown in the Global Financial market has negatively affected most of us personally over the past twelve months. This investment challenge has also placed barriers on many public and private programs. It has negatively impacted the investments in the Vasa Grand Lodge Scholarship Program. Over the years many generous Vasa members have donated funds which support individual scholarship awards. The principle donated by these individuals must be safeguarded and only interest earned may be presented in the form of scholarships to deserving students each year. These investments have also been negatively affected.

The Grand Lodge Executive Board has, therefore, regretfully made the difficult decision to place a hold on the Scholarship Program for 2010. An upward curve in investment earnings is expected later in 2010 and the Board anticipates the Scholarship Program to be financially healthy and able to perform as in the past by 2011.

**Bill Lundquist, Vice Grand Master
Scholarship Program Chairman**

2010 GL Convention Raffle Winners

1st place: \$1,000.00

From Siljan-Mora-Tuna #134
Nancy Hult Secretary

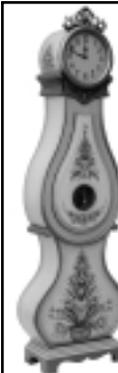
2nd place: \$500.00

From Siljan-Mora-Tuna #134
Ray Asplund

3rd place: \$250.00

From Frihet #401
Karla Anderson

Submitted by: Ellen Shellgren Cirino
Nobel-Monitor Lodge #130,
Cleveland, OH



The Scandinavian Clock Maker

*Traditional Swedish design
handcrafted in Eugene, OR,
by Walt Schullstrom*

Custom painted to order
in any folk art style.

For details

541-461-0329

Suwalschul@aol.com

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE for the 37th Grand Lodge Convention July 2 - 8, 2010 - Washington, DC

Friday, July 2

- 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM Registration Desk open.
- 8:00 – 10:00 PM **Welcome ‘Dessert’ Reception** hosted by DL Pennsylvania No. 9; free to all who registered. Entertainment provided by DL New Jersey No. 6 Vasastjärnan Youth Club.

Saturday, July 3

- 9.00 AM – 12:00 PM Registration Desk open.
- 1:00 - 2:15 PM **Opening Ceremony** with special greetings, presentation of flags by Vasastjärnan Youth Club and introductions of Grand Lodge Officers.
- 2:15 – 2:45 PM Coffee break
- 2:45 – 4:30 PM **Opening Session** for Grand Lodge Officers and Delegates; Vasa members invited to join.
- 5:30 – 10:30 PM **Reception at the House of Sweden.** Two busses leave for the House of Sweden at 5:30 PM and return for additional trip at 6:00 PM. Tours of the Embassy and upper floors of HOS starting at 6:00 PM (staggered small tour groups). Light buffet open at 7:00 PM including wine. Music provided by ‘Svenska Spelman’ group from Jamestown, NY. Busses return to Marriott at 9:45 and 10:15 P.M. Cost: \$85/person.

Sunday, July 4

- Free day** for everyone to enjoy Independence Day in downtown Washington. Because of the difficulty of travel in Washington on July 4th, no scheduled tours are planned.
- 8:30 – 10:00 AM **New delegate breakfast:** sponsored by the Grand Lodge

Monday, July 5

- 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM Session for Grand Lodge Officers and Delegates.
- Free day and evening for guests to tour Washington on their own.

Tuesday, July 6

- 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM **Mt. Vernon Tour.** No Grand Lodge Session. Busses leave hotel for Mt. Vernon, home of President George Washington, at 8:15 AM. Tour Mt. Vernon for four hours; mansion, new visitor's center, shops and food court. Busses leave Mt Washington at 1:45 PM for return to Marriott. Cost: \$40/person. See www.Mountvernon.org.
- 7:00 – 10:00 PM **Cultural, membership and web seminars – responsibility of GL Ex Bd**

Wednesday, July 7

- 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM Session for Grand Lodge Officers and Delegates.
- 10:30 AM – 3:30 PM **Non-delegate Tour of Hillwood Estate;** lunch included. Cost: \$55/person. See www.hillwoodmansion.org.

Thursday, July 8

- 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM Session for Grand Lodge Officers and Delegates; election and installation of new officers
- 6:00 – 7:00 PM. **Cocktail hour** (cash bar) and photo opportunities.
- 7:00 – Midnight **Grand Banquet** with entertainment and dancing. Dance music by Smörgåsbandet. Cost: \$115/person

REGISTRATION FORM

37th Grand Lodge Convention • July 2 - July 8, 2010

Registration Deadline: *May 14, 2010*

www.vasaorder.com

NOTE: Grand Lodge Officers, Honorary Life Members of the Grand Lodge and Delegates receive complimentary tickets for the Saturday and Thursday nights banquets, and the Tuesday tour. Spouses and other participants are responsible for payment of all events in which they partake except for the Friday Welcome Reception.

Total Cost of Registration may be paid either by check (see details below) or by credit card using the capability on the Grand Lodge website shown above.

Date, Week Day	Event <i>(Please see Activity Schedule in this Vasa Star issue for event details)</i>	No. of People Attending	Price Per Person (Prices in U.S. \$)	Total Cost
July 2, Friday	Welcome Reception		No Cost	
July 3, Saturday	Reception at House of Sweden		\$ 85	
July 4, Sunday	Free day to enjoy Independence Day in Washington		Your cost	
July 6, Tuesday	Tour: Mt. Vernon		\$ 40	
July 7, Wednesday	Non-delegate Tour: Hillwood		\$ 55	
July 8, Thursday	Grand Banquet		\$ 115	
PLEASE WRITE CHECK TO: Grand Lodge 2010 Convention MAIL TO: Sharen Tizzano, 2250 Par Lane #1217, Willoughby Hills, OH 44094			Total Included: \$	

Note: Advance Registration is required for, or a portion of, the Convention, including the Welcome Reception!

Personal Information: Please Print Clearly

Name _____ Local Lodge & No. _____

Address _____ District Lodge & No. _____

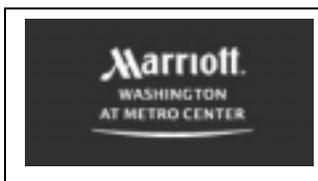
City _____ State/Prov. _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Country _____ Phone Number: Country Code/Area Code/Number _____

E-mail Address _____

(How many?) Delegate ___ GL Officer (Elected) ___ GL Officer (Appointed) ___ GL Honorary Life Member ___

Please make your Hotel Reservations directly with the Hotel to ensure Convention rates



- 775 12th Street NW
Washington, DC 20005 USA
- Phone: 1-202-737-2200
- Fax: 1-202-347-5886
- Toll-free: 1-800-393-2510

- Room rate: \$159 (+ tax of 14.4 %) per night for all rooms.
- \$159 rate applies for one, two, three or four people per room.
- Rooms contain either One King or Two Double Beds
- All rooms are non-smoking
- \$159 room rate available between June 30 and July 12, 2010.
- Reservation deadline is 6:00 PM, Friday, June 11, 2010 to obtain rooms at above rate.

You can make reservations by calling the Marriott at the number above or by using the internet. If you call to make the reservation the group name is *VASA 2010*.

You can also register at the hotel using the internet using the information found on the Grand Lodge webpage shown at the top.

Expected arrival date _____ Expected departure date _____

Sharing room with _____

2010 Grand Lodge Convention Items for Sale

The following items are offered for sale by the 2010 GL Convention Committee to help host DL Pennsylvania No. 9 raise funds for the convention. Thank you for your support!



Dalahäst
Label Pin



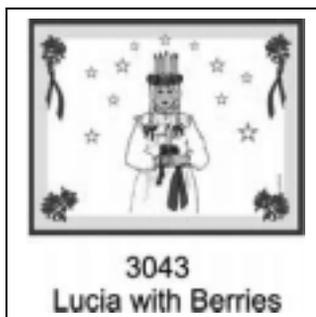
Sweatshirt
50/50 blend



3040
Ornament Tree



3041 Birds
Winter Feast



3043
Lucia with Berries



3045
Christmas Treats



3048 Christmas Straw
Ornaments

ORDER FORM

S H I P P I N G	Name _____
	Address _____
	City _____ State _____ Zip _____
	Phone No. _____ Country _____
	Email _____

Note: Sales tax is included in prices.

Note: If purchasing dalahäst lapel pins only, a shipping charge of \$5.00 applies for any amount purchased.

Quantity	Item Description	Price Each	Total
	Dalahäst lapel pin (size shown in relation to penny)	\$ 7.00	
	Nordic Flags Sweatshirt, YthM __ YthL__ S__ M__ L__ XL__ XXL__ XXXL__	\$ 20.00	
	3040 'Daphne' greeting cards, 4.25x5.5 in, blank inside, "Ornament Tree"; 8-pack	\$ 6.00	
	3041 'Daphne' greeting cards, 4.25x5.5 in, blank, "Bird Winter Feast"; 8-pack	\$ 6.00	
	3043 'Daphne' greeting cards, 4.25x5.5 in, blank, "Lucia with berries"; 8-pack	\$ 6.00	
	3045 'Daphne' greeting cards, 4.25x5.5 in, blank, "Christmas Treats"; 8-pack	\$ 6.00	
	3048 'Daphne' greeting card, 4.25x5.5 in, blank, "Straw Ornaments"; 8-pack	\$ 6.00	
Please write check to: 2010 Grand Lodge Convention Mail your order and check to: Dorothy Overberg, 5431 Patton, Erie, PA 16509 Phone: (814) 864-2406 Email: croverberg@aim.com		Subtotal	
		Shipping (see chart)	
		TOTAL INCLUDED	

Shipping and Handling (USA) Please call for orders above \$150.00 or for any order to Canada or to Sweden

Subtotal	Shipping	Subtotal	Shipping	Subtotal	Shipping
\$0.00-\$18.00	\$5.00	\$18.01-\$36.00	\$8.00	\$36.01-\$54.00	\$10.00
\$54.01-\$80.00	\$12.00	\$80.01-\$110.00	\$15.00	\$110.01-\$150.00	\$18.00

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT

MAY 1, 2008 thru APRIL 30, 2009

	Per Capita	OA & B	Education Fund	Archives	Applies to Year
DL Connecticut #1	\$ 3,783.00	\$ 72.75	\$ 291.00	\$ 436.50	(2009)
DL Massachusetts #2	\$ 9,841.00	\$189.25	\$ 757.00	\$1,135.50	(2009)
DL Rhode Island #3	\$ 4,420.00	\$ 85.00	\$ 340.00	\$ 510.00	(2009)
DL New York #4	\$ 8,970.00	\$172.50	\$ 690.00	\$1,035.00	(2008)
DL New York #4	\$ 8,619.00	\$165.75	\$ 663.00	\$ 994.50	(2009)
DL New Jersey #6	\$ 286.00	\$ 5.50	\$ 22.00	\$ 33.00	(2008)
DL New Jersey #6	\$13,793.00	\$265.25	\$1,061.00	\$1,591.50	(2009)
DL Minnesota #7	\$ 3,081.00	\$ 59.25	\$ 237.00	\$ 355.50	(2009)
DL Lake Michigan #8	\$16,068.00	\$309.00	\$1,236.00	\$1,854.00	(2009)
DL Pennsylvania #9	\$ 7,904.00	\$152.00	\$ 608.00	\$ 912.00	(2009)
DL Superior #10	\$ 1,976.00	\$ 38.00	\$ 152.00	\$ 228.00	(2009)
DL Rocky Mountain #11	\$ 1,222.00	\$ 23.50	\$ 94.00	\$ 141.00	(2009)
DL Golden Gate #12	\$13,221.00	\$254.25	\$1,017.00	\$1,525.50	(2009)
DL Pacific Northwest #13	\$15,574.00	\$299.50	\$1,198.00	\$1,797.00	(2008)
DL Pacific Northwest #13	\$14,105.00	\$271.25	\$1,085.00	\$1,627.50	(2009)
DL Pacific Southwest #15	\$16,055.00	\$308.75	\$1,235.00	\$1,852.50	(2009)
DL Central Canada #16	\$ 689.00	\$ 13.25	\$ 53.00	\$ 79.50	(2009)
DL Iowa-Nebraska #17	\$ 1,937.00	\$ 37.25	\$ 149.00	\$ 223.50	(2009)
DL Alberta #18	\$ 7,891.00	\$151.75	\$ 607.00	\$ 910.50	(2009)
DL Norra Sverige #19	\$ 8,246.50				(2008)
DL Norra Sverige #19	\$22,802.00				(2009)
DL Södra Sverige #20	\$18,837.00				(2009)
DL Arizona #21	\$ 4,641.00	\$ 89.25	\$ 357.00	\$ 535.50	(2009)
LL Jubilee #692	\$ 507.00	\$ 9.75	\$ 39.00	\$ 58.50	(2009)
LL Nordic #708	\$ 1,560.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 180.00	(2008)
LL Nordic #708	\$ 1,469.00	\$ 28.25	\$ 113.00	\$ 169.50	(2009)
LL Carl XVI Gustav #716	\$ 884.00	\$ 17.00	\$ 68.00	\$ 102.00	(2009)
LL Carl Larsson #739	\$ 1,352.00	\$ 26.00	\$ 104.00	\$ 156.00	(2007)
LL Carl Larsson #739	\$ 1,183.00	\$ 22.75	\$ 91.00	\$ 136.50	(2008)
LL Carl Widen #743	\$ 780.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 90.00	(2009)
LL Travelers #758	\$ 546.00	\$ 10.50	\$ 42.00	\$ 63.00	(2008)
Individual Member under GL	\$ 13.00	\$ 0.25	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.50	(2009)

No 2009 assessments received/deposited before April 30, 2009 from: LL Facklan #248, LL Miami #554, LL Carl Larson #739; LL Forsgard-Olson #757; Travelers #758.

Student Loan Repayments: Christopher Boyd \$1,125.00; Christian Ljunggren #1,500.00; Jillian Ljunggren \$504.00; Abigail Sten \$375.00

GENERAL FUND

Sale of: Printed Material	\$ 892.00
Jewelry & Emblems	5,909.43
Flags & Regalia	0.00
Rituals/Constitution, Etc.	628.50
Postage	456.05
Miscellaneous	2,553.28
Per Capita Assessments	<u>212,231.50</u>
Total General Fund	\$222,670.76
Transfers – OA & B Fund	88,150.00

REIMBURSEMENT FUND INSURANCE 1,260.00

EDUCATION FUND

Assessments	12,493.00
Stamp Donations	14,936.17
Loan Repayments	3,504.00
Memorials	0.00
Donation to Scholarship Fund	100.00
Miscellaneous	<u>2,002.08</u>
Total Education Fund	\$ 33,035.25

OLD AGE & BENEFIT FUND

Assessments	\$ 3,123.25
-------------	-------------

ARCHIVES FUND

Assessments 18,739.50

VASA STAR FUND

Advertisements	7,677.32
Obituaries	782.00
Sales/Subscriptions	80.00
Foreign Mail Fund	102.99
Miscellaneous/Return Mail	403.90
Labels	<u>5.00</u>
Total Vasa Star Fund	9,051.21

GRAND TOTAL RECEIPTS \$376,029.97

Deposited – Wells Fargo Bank, Minneapolis, MN
 Deposit numbers 1 through 32
 Joan L. Graham
 Grand Secretary

Campaign Results

Membership 2008 – A Campaign for Vasa

Congratulations to **DL Central Canada #16**, **LL Dalahäst #742**, **LL Solstad #709**, **LL Skogen #700**, **LL Golden Valley #616**, **LL Westervik #679** and to **Betty Johnson** of LL Drott #168. Each has won a First Place Award in the Grand Lodge Membership Contest.

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

Rank	% Gain	DL Name & No.	Prize
1st Place:	3.7%	DL Central Canada #16	\$250 and Grand Master's Trophy
2nd Place:	3.0%	DL Minnesota #7	\$200

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

Rank	% Gain	LL Name & No.	Prize	Membership
1st Place in District:	30.0%	LL Dalahäst #742, DL #6	\$100	36
1st Place in District:	29.0%	LL Solstad #709, DL #21	\$100	38
1st Place in District:	24.1%	LL Skogen #700, DL #12	\$100	34
4th Place:	17.1%	LL Norrskenet #331, DL #17	\$ 40	46
5th Place (tie):	16.0%	LL Tegner #109, DL #4	\$ 30	58
5th Place (tie):	16.0%	LL Balder #343, DL #12	\$ 30	28

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

LL Golden Valley #616 in DL Southern California #15 and **LL Westervik #679** in DL Southern Sweden #20 by each initiating 19 new members. They will each receive \$100.

The winners of **Most Members Sponsored Award**:

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

Second Place: **Cherstin Peterson** of LL Dalahäst #742 in DL New Jersey #6 and **Katarina Ivarson** of LL Phoenix #677 in DL Arizona #21 each with 7 members. Sisters Cherstin and Katarina will each receive \$50.

The Vasa Order again experienced a deep decline during 2008. Of all districts reporting, you can see that although there were two districts in the Largest Percentage Gain category above, no District had a net gain of members. (This may seem confusing, but by rule, percentage gain does not take members lost due to death or members transferred to or from other Lodges into account.) Only one District maintained its membership and every other Districts lost more members than they initiated. **We are not initiating as many new members** into the Order as in past years, but most importantly, **we are not keeping our members**. Of the losses experienced in 2008, 25% were lost due to death and 75% **dropped their membership**.

Looking forward: for the current year "Membership 2009 – A Campaign for Vasa" can be an incentive for Local and District Lodges to create something new. **New Children's Clubs! New Activities Clubs! New Local Lodges!** There are rewards for starting new Clubs and Lodges, even though there were no such given out this time. Make sure to use a **new Membership Application Form** that includes an entry for who sponsored your new members. Over one third of all the new members initiated in 2008 did not have a sponsor listed on the application form.

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

Local Lodge and District Secretaries: Be sure to get those Yearly Reports turned in by the deadline, so that your Lodges will be in the running for Cash Awards at the close of "Membership 2009 – A Campaign for Vasa"! Let's turn this around and start an UPWARD trend! All we need to do is **bring in One New Member each!**

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

I congratulate all the winners to a job well done!

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

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

Grand Lodge Summer Seminar for Youth Club Leaders and District Youth Supervisors

The weekend of July 17th through 19th found Vasa youth leaders from all over North America gathered in Crestwood, Illinois for a weekend of sharing, learning, sightseeing and fellowship! All youth leaders had been invited to participate and plans were developed over the past year. This event was proposed and supported by the Grand Lodge to revitalize the youth clubs in our Order by providing new materials and information that can be used by all Clubs with their members.

On Friday, July 17th, Vasa leaders from New York, California, Canada, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Illinois, gathered at the Hampton Inn of Crestwood, Illinois....a suburb of Chicago. A hospitality room was waiting for the attendees where they could select T-shirt in the color of their choice and create a "secret message" on the front and/or back using fabric paints and special stamps of the letters from the Runic Alphabet. All of the ladies were treated to a special gift which consisted of a pair of Nordic earrings from Nordikreations.com. A dinner of real Chicago Style Pizza was catered by Uno's Pizza at 7pm. Everyone enjoyed their meal while finishing their t-shirts and socializing until late in the evening!

Saturday morning the group gathered and the meeting began. Our room was set up with tables where each member received a pen and notebook for taking notes. Introductions were given by Lynda Smith, Grand Lodge Youth Director and organizer of the event, and then each leader presented a talk about their Club or District.

Patti Christianson represented Pride of the Family from Bishop Hill, Illinois and talked about the unique importance of heritage education in the "banquet of life." She gave each participant a bag filled with information about the Vasa National Archives in Bishop Hill and about the town of Bishop Hill. The bag even had a Dala Horse on the front!

Paul and Linnea Johnson shared their ideas and experience from their many years as dance instructors with *Vårblomman* in Chicago. They told how their involvement had been a part of their family for years and how their children are now growing into the next generation of Vasa members.

Britt Nilsson from Solstrålen, also in Chicago, told the group that it was easy to teach culture with Trolls, or any other symbol of the Nordic lands. Sharing of ideas with youth and making it both fun and educational, was emphasized.

Susan Nilsson, also from Solstrålen, shared her hopes for improved publicity as a way of marketing the wonderful opportunities our Children's Clubs offer – to attract more members and share the culture with our communities.

Kristi Bjorklund Betts, the District Youth Supervisor from Dist. 12 in California, shared a video from one of the clubs in her District and told us of her hopes for all the clubs in her District.

Elaine McGrath, District Youth Supervisor from District 4 in New York gave everyone a wonderful surprise by showcasing the new Dance Instruction book that her group has published in 2009. This book goes along with the Dance music CD and Lucia music CD and word/instruction booklet that were produced earlier. It is a fantastic package for teaching, learning and enjoying 26 different folk dances. Forty of these packages have been purchased by the Grand Lodge and will be given to each Children's Club leader and District Youth Supervisor to help with their programs and activities.

Liz Schumacher, also from New York, represented Elsa Rix. She told of some of the traditions that their club has developed and how they entertain around the greater New York area sharing the Swedish culture and also of how they go about recruiting new members.

Ann Heinstdt, Leader of Arvingarna and also DLYS of District 15 in Southern California, shared a video of her District's summer camp and gave us all information and inspiration on how they have turned their Vasa Park into a very lucrative and active venture.

Gunlog Spaberg, also from California, represented Morning Star, shared her history with the club while she demonstrated a craft of making Yarn (garn) Tomtar. At the end of the demonstration, she presented each participant with a kit containing materials and instructions for this craft.

Kelsey Johnson, District Youth Supervisor from District 18 in Edmonton Canada, and *Kristen Dougan*, member of Skandia local lodge in Canada, did a joint

presentation about the summer camp that is run each year in their District. They shared ideas for activities as well as the structure, and planning involved making this event a success and they showed a video of the camp from last year.

After the presentations, *Bill Lundquist*, the Vice Grand Master who attended with his wife Sheila, DM for DL Lake Michigan #8, shared his words of appreciation to all the participants and his goals and hopes for Vasa youth. He also brought greetings from Grand Master *Rolf Bergman* and wife Marty who had been with the group on Friday night but had to leave before the morning's session.

By 11:45, everyone was on a big yellow school bus that headed toward the downtown area of Chicago. We departed the school bus in front of the Wrigley Building and ran down the stairs to the docks on the Chicago River where we boarded a Wendella Cruise sightseeing boat for an architectural cruise of both the river and Lake Michigan. During the cruise our Vasa leaders were able to learn about Chicago, and at the same time, continue their sharing.

After the cruise we rode the bus to the north side of the city and a visit to the *Swedish American Museum*. Karin Andersson, one of the directors, was kind enough to give everyone a tour of the museum. The interactive, children's exhibit on the third floor, was a big hit with all the youth leaders!

At 5pm everyone found their way back to the main level where cocktails were served, followed by a delicious Swedish meal. Following dinner, Paul and Linnea Johnson lead the group in doing several new and enjoyable folk dances. Everyone had a wonderful time executing the dance steps while trying not to step on each other's toes or turn in the wrong direction!

After dinner, our group ventured across the street to Simon's Tavern....a Swedish legend in Chicago for many years. The murals on the walls and the glass mirrors behind the bar all tell a history of the Swedish immigrants who came to Chicago in the early part of the last century. Some of our brave members took a tour of the basement where we saw evidence of the speakeasy that was

Continued on page 14

Grand Lodge Summer Seminar

Continued from page 13

hidden there during the prohibition era of the 1920's. We even tasted the newest creation"glögg" slushies!

Sunday morning we all gathered in a conference room after breakfast where we shared our final ideas and said our farewells. Although the weekend was very short and constantly filled with activity, the members all developed bonds and friendships that will last for many years to come and will be an inspiration to their Clubs and Districts!

Each member was presented with a "goodie bag" of materials. Included in the bags were: a newly prepared Handbook of Materials for Leaders, a copy of the Swedish Cultural Coloring Book by Nancy Hedlund (this book was printed in the 1970s and has been a wonderful teaching tool for our Clubs for many years. Although it is currently out of print, Ms. Hedlund has graciously allowed our Clubs of today permission to use her book for education of our youth.) A CD containing a copy of the Power Point "How to Start a Children's Club" and the PDF file for a book of Swedish Songs and Games, published almost 100 years ago in New York which can be printed out if desired. In addition to this, the teaching package with the double CD album and Lucia booklet and Dance



Left to right – Front Row: Sheila Lundquist, Susan Nilsson, Lynda Smith, Kelsey Johnson, Kristen Dougan, Ann Heinstedt and Patricia Christianson. Second Row: Paul Johnson, Linnea Johnson, Liz Dahlstrom, Marty Bergman, Elaine McGrath, Nancy Hult, Gunlog Spaberg, Kristi Betts, Britt Nilsson Top Row: Rolf Bergman, William Lundquist, Sten Hult.

Instruction Handbook prepared by Elsa Rix, was placed in each bag.

All leaders who did not attend will be receiving a package in the mail with the Handbook, Coloring Book, Dance Instruction manual and CD in the next 6 weeks. It is our hope that this new material will provide many new ideas for teaching language, music, crafts, games, dancing, and will enrich all of the Children's Clubs in the Vasa Order.

Any lodge considering starting a new club (or "kick starting" an existing one)

should contact Lynda Smith, Grand Lodge Youth Director, by phone, mail or email. This is the surest way to keep new members and new ideas coming into your lodge!

**Respectfully submitted,
In Truth and Unity
Lynda Ann Smith/
email: lamsmith@hotmail.com
Phone: 219-923-8777
/mail: 1502 Azalea Drive,
Munster, IN 46321**

DISTRICT LODGE NEWS

DL Connecticut #1

It has been a busy spring for District Lodge Connecticut #1 with events and projects centering on Vasa Park in Meriden, CT. The park continues to see significant improvement and great support for the events.

April started with an Easter Egg Hunt that was well attended including a visit by the Easter Bunny!

Thereafter in late April with everyone fully engaged we celebrated "Valborgsmässoafton" with a fire, singing, and a pot luck dinner. In May along with Park Work Days our annual *Memorial Service* was held.

Vasa Day – "Midsommar" followed in June. The weather was magnificent and what a turn out, certainly the best in recent memory. The May pole was decorated by the children, it was carried in and raised to the music of Wivan Sundman who then coached everyone dancing around the Maypole.

The children then enjoyed a magician, a treasure hunt, pie eating contest, and children's raffle, while the adults enjoyed the music of Wivan Sundman, Carl B Ericson, and Gordon Reimer and the adult raffle. We made a change to our practice of charging admission. This year everyone attending was asked to bring food suitable for donation to a food pantry or kitchen. The end result was a load of food taken to the *Meriden Salvation Army* food pantry by Bill Parsons.

One opportunity that we would like to bring the attention of the other districts and lodges is our memorial brick walk at our Vasa Park. The first two hundred bricks have been laid. The inscribed bricks cost \$50 and consist of three lines with thirteen characters per line. The walk is called "Founders Walk." We are requesting the support of other districts and local lodges in commemorating their beginning, or remembering a past district master, grand lodge officers, parents, grand par-

ents, and the list is never ending of who can be commemorated. If you would like to purchase a brick please send a clearly printed or typed inscription (3 lines with 13 characters per line) along with a \$50 check made out to Vasa Park. The check should be sent to Judy Fisher 47 Cooper Ave. Wallingford, CT 06492.

Submitted by: Paul Ljunggren



The Vasa Park "Älg."

DL Rhode Island #3

Hej –

Don't you just love a language that lets you start and end a message with the same little word? Well, hej again from little old Rhode Island – VOA District #3! By the time you're reading this article the wonderful holiday of Midsommar has long since come and gone – but it certainly is not forgotten!

Our RI spring this year (too much rain and too little heat) made members of Pioneer #506 and Quahog #725 look nervously to the sky on Saturday, June 20th BUT it turned out to be a perfect day for sitting outside at Little Rhody Vasa Park, talking with old friends, listening to music, dancing around the majstång (if your knees would allow it!), watching the kids have a blast with their games, and just plain "enjoying life."

In addition, we all looked with pride at the Vasa young folks who were presented with District scholarships to be used at the institute of higher learning of their choice: Alicia Clarke (Quahog #725), John Boisvert and Natasha Zawislak (Svea #362), Karina McCarthy (Star #56), and Annika Gliottone (Pioneer #506). The accompanying photo shows Edith L. Nilsson making the presentation of the Grand Lodge Einar and Edith L. Nilsson Award to Alicia Clarke. Our heartiest congrats go out to these great kids!

This wonderful celebration ended as most Scandinavian festivals do – WITH FOOD! – a great pork roast dinner followed with strawberry shortcake for dessert. All in all, "en härlig dag"!

Submitted by: Lily B. Zarli, DCL



Edith Nilsson (Star Lodge #56), Kris Zarli-Bloomquist (Pioneer Lodge #506), Grand Lodge Deputy and Alicia Clarke (Quahog Lodge #725).

DL New Jersey #6

New Jersey District Lodge #6 held its annual convention in Cape May, NJ on May 2, 3. Although the weather was a bit cool and cloudy it did not dampen the spirits of the many gathered there for Vasa business, fun and fellowship.

Saturday morning District Master BJ Peterson called NJ District Six's 102nd convention to order. Seventeen of our Past District Masters were in attendance.

A moment of silence was held in memory of our District Secretary Carol Anderson who had passed away in January. District business was conducted at warp speed with all reports reviewed and accepted.

Sunday morning started with our *Memorial Service* honoring our members who passed away during 2008.

Our business session was called to order and we proceeded with election of District Officers for the 2009-2010 term. Those elected were: District Master - Deborah Larsson, Lyckan; Vice District Master - Mark Bernabei, Gothiod; District Treasurer - Eric Johansson, Tryggve; District Secretary - Dee Christenson, Frithiof; Assistant District Secretary - Cathy Peterson, Draken; District Trustees - Chad Peterson, Draken, and Fred Signor, Sveaborg; District Auditors - Lou Casella, Linne and Nancy Bjorkner; Sveaborg; District Chaplain - Jeanette Baker, Three Crowns; District Cultural Leader, Carol McDermott - Viking; District Master of Ceremonies - Ken Christenson, Frithiof;

Assistant Master of Ceremonies - Stacy Graham, Arlington; District Inner Guard - Marie Demboski, Draken; District Outer Guard - Ed Peterson, Dalahäst.

Grand Lodge Treasurer Richard Overberg congratulated our newly elected officers. He thanked District #6 for our hospitality to him and his wife, Dorothy and said he is looking forward to see our junior club, *Vasastjärnan*, perform at the *Grand Lodge convention* next year. GL Deputy, John Larsson invested BJ Peterson with the emblem of Past District Master. John's installation team, consisting of *Vasastjärnan* members installed our new District Officers with pride and precision. With our new District Officers in place District Master Debbie Larsson thanked her family for all their love and support. She said she will continue to use membership and tradition as her messages this year and will add service to community as well. Grand Lodge Deputy NY, Ivar Anderson presented District #6 with \$50 for our scholarship fund, half of his winnings from his long-shot bet in Saturday's Kentucky Derby!

I encourage all Vasa members to try to attend their Districts' convention either as a delegate or Lodge member at least once. It is a great way to learn the inner workings of our Order and meet members from other Lodges and Districts. It is always a fun weekend and you couldn't ask for better company.

Submitted by: Beverly Blake



Grand Lodge Deputy John Larsson installs his wife, Deborah Larsson as District Master of NJ District #6. PDM Dave Carlson looks on. Seated is the installation team of *Vasastjärnan* members, Robert Cranmer, Brittany Offerding, Jeremy Peterson, Michael Verdal and Candace Peterson.

DL Lake Michigan #8

The 101st Annual Convention of District Lodge Lake Michigan #8 is now history – two years in the planning, and well worth every effort that was spent in meetings, fund raising, and coordinating. As with other major projects undertaken by our lodge, the Convention has brought us closer together. The cooperation, enthusiasm, willingness to serve, and hospitality exhibited by the members of Svea #253 are outstanding. We were delighted to welcome delegates, District #8 officers, friends, and guests to *The Marten House*, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Program Book: “Nordic Innovations” developed into a handsome book, with 40 pages of articles on Swedish and other Scandinavian achievements, the schedule of events, the memorial service, a proclamation from the Governor of Indiana Mitch Daniels, a proclamation from the Mayor of Indianapolis, Indiana Greg Ballard, and other items of interest. A sincere “Tack Så Mycket” to all the local lodges and the District Lodge for placing advertisements in the program book. Our Program Book will be on the District #8 web site as a Newsletter from now until October 1, 2009. From then on, next year’s Convention hosts will begin displaying their Program Book. To access the Program Book on the web, go to: www.vasaorder.org.

Cultural Displays: The District Cultural Leader pro tem Iva Lynn planned a comprehensive exhibit of Nordic Innovations with colorful and information-packed displays of scientific, medical, mechanical, educational, and sports interest.

Swedish Emporium: A great assortment of special gifts and troll treasures were to be found at the Swedish Emporium coordinated by Susie and Mark Swanson. The “Loppmarknad,” coordinated by Sue and Tom James and Janet Jegen, had a real flea market atmosphere of bargain items, and greeting cards of all types were sold by co-managers Lou Anderson, Ann Hanson, and Marty Lindgren.

Hospitality Room: All delegates, officers, guests, and Vasa friends were invited to the hospitality room on Friday evening for a welcoming “smörgåsbord” of food and beverages. Michelle Escalante and her team received much kudos for the variety of scrumptious and abundant food. The hospitality room once



Seated (from left to right): District Secretary, Marge Gruel, Linde #492; District Cultural Leader, Andrea Wilczynski, Siljan-Mora-Tuna #134; Vice District Master Tom Cleveland, Viljan #749; District Master, Sheila Lundquist, Viking #730; District Treasurer, Lisa Cianci, Siljan-Mora-Tuna #134; and District Historian, Iva Lynn, Svea #253. *Standing (from left to right):* Supervisor Of Children’s And Youth Clubs, Lynda Smith, Nordik Folk #761; Inner Guard, Steve Westlund, Nordik Folk #761; District Auditor, 2 years, Eric Swanson, Viking #730; Outer Guard, Timothy Ogrentz, Nordik Folk #761; Assistant District Secretary, Joella Hultgren, Svea #253; Executive Board Member, Edward Hultgren, Svea #253; District Hospital Fund Secretary, Theodore Ruser, Satellite #661; Master Of Ceremonies, Nancy Hult, Siljan-Mora-Tuna #134; and PDM Sten Hult, Siljan-Mora-Tuna #134. *Absent from the photograph:* Executive Board Member, Susan Cleveland, Viljan #349; District Chaplain, Inez Törnblom, Viljan #349; District Auditor, 3 years, Paula Stopka, Viljan #349; and Auditor, 1 year, Herb Smith, Nordik Folk #761.

again invited conventioners for a send-off luncheon on Sunday afternoon.

Golf Tournament: Golf Tournament Co-Chairman Ken Allen announced the winners of the Friday morning Golf Tournament at Brookshire Golf Club in Carmel, Indiana.

Friday Program: Under the direction of Sara Olsson, the youth group *Sveaskolan #210* entertained us with songs, and a little help from parents Ingrid Childs and Sarah Swanson. *Dans Norden*, the Scandinavian Folk Dancing Group in Indianapolis, Indiana, performed a variety of Scandinavian dances accompanied by a seven-piece band of professional musicians.

Highlights of the Opening Ceremony at the Convention on Saturday morning was the presentation of the colors. We were honored to have the following flag bearers bearing their respective flags: PDM Jake Gruel, Ann-Katrin Roth, PGM Lennart Petersson, John Hook, PDM Linda Christensen, Les Touve, C. Jean Tygum, and PDM Sten Hult. VGM and PDM Bill Lundquist, Viking #730, coordinated the ceremony and PDM Linda

Christensen, Svea #253, greeted the conventioners.

Saturday Banquet: The Mistress of Ceremonies for the evening, PDM Linda Christensen introduced our dignitaries and award presenters. District Executive Board Member Linda Cianci, Siljan-Mora-Tuna #134, announced the Distinguished Service Award winner. PDM Jake Gruel, Linde #492 was recognized for his long and tireless service to Linde #492, as PDM and other offices for District #8, to the Grand Lodge where he serves as the Executive Board Member for the Midwest Region, and to the *VASA National Archives* where he serves as the Secretary and Financial Secretary. Linda Cianci also announced the Membership Awards for 2008. They are: tied for 1st place were Bessemer #203 and Nordik Folk #761, each receiving \$150.00; tied for 2nd place were Kronan #179 and Jubileum #755, each receiving \$100.00; and 3rd place Viljan #349, receiving \$50.00.

Following a delicious banquet of Indiana favorites, we were serenaded by

Continued on page 17

DL Lake Michigan #8

Continued from page 16

the Indianapolis Maennerchor, the "Gentlemen of Song Since 1854." Now in their 155th Concert Season, they are the oldest continuously performing men's choir in the United States. The audience was invited to join them singing several familiar songs.

Memorial Service: A memorial service honoring and remembering District #8 members who passed away in 2008

was held on Sunday morning. Marvin Anderson, Svea #253, presided over the service with District Chaplain Inez Törnblom, Viljan #349. The District 8 Choir, directed by Wesley Hanson, Svea #253, sang a beautiful arrangement of "On Eagle's Wings."

Installation of Officers: PDM Jake Gruel, PDM Sten Hult, VGM and PDM Bill Lundquist, PDM David Tollin, and PGM Lennart Petersson installed the District officers for 2009 – 2010.

We are grateful to the more than 90

members of Svea #253 who supported the convention with donations, attendance, and hours of hard work; to the District 8 Executive Board who showed their support and offered encouragements; and to the staff of the Marten House, who responded to our many requests effectively, efficiently, and with smiles on their faces.

**Submitted by: Ed Hultgren, Chairman
and Joella Hultgren Svea #253**

DL Södra Sverige Nr 20

Distriktslogen Södra Sverige Nr 20 höll Distriktsmöte i Växjö, Småland, den 15-17 maj 2009.

DM Catherine Bringselius Nilsson valdes enhälligt till Distriktsmästare. Catherine valdes också att, tillsammans med fd MDER Ulf Alderlöf, representera DL 20 vid *Storlogekonventet* i Washington 2010.

Till Distriktsmötet hade ca 170 Vasamedlemmar kommit. God stämning och fin gemenskap präglade dagarna. Förhandlingarna löpte smidigt. Den lokala logen Carl von Linné Nr 678 genomförde en stämningsfull fanparad. Från USA gästades Distriktsmötet av SM Rolf Bergman med hustru Marty, VSM Bill Lundquist med hustru Sheila (DM

DL 8), MSLER Tore Kjellgren med hustru Birgitta och SLKL Inger Hanright. DM Catherine med make Göran mötte några av gästerna på stationen i Växjö med pompa och ståt. Växjö Kommuns Borgmästare Nils Posse hälsade välkommen med en särskild mottagning för våra långväga gäster.

Insänt av: Göran Nilsson, LL 678



Det nya Exekutiva Rådet. Första raden från vänster: VDS Agneta Västerstjärna, DH Anita Nilsson, DM Catherine Bringselius Nilsson, DKL Maureen Bengtsson, DS Ingrid Cannerhagen. Andra raden från vänster: MDER Bengt Åberg, VDM Olle Wickström, FDM Åke Mellnert. Bakre raden: DK Bengt Hammargren, R/FÖM Kenneth Gustafsson, R/FÖM Sven-Olov Stigsson.



SM-paret och SLKL mottages på stationen i Växjö av DM Catherine med make Göran.

Welcome, Fall!

LODGE NEWS

Scandia Lodge #23

Manchester, CT



We enjoyed a summer picnic at Vasa Park, Meriden, CT, on June 6, 2009. A highlight of the picnic was posing at the flagpole with the commemorative bricks at the base. Members, l-r: June Roncarti, Lilija Strazinskis, Sylvia and Mel Hellstrom and Paul Berg.

Submitted by: June Roncarti

North Star Lodge #106

Los Angeles, CA



Midsummer Queen, 2009, Madison Cornell, Kellie Spaberg, SVEA (right) and Nichole Ostlund, Columbia (left of Queen) – Midsummer at Vasa Park, Agoura, Ca, on June 28, 2009.

Photo by: Erik Lindberg

Our May meeting was special due to the fact that our own Mary Ethel Pierson, DM, was present. Also honored this day were 50-year members who were given

their pins by Chairman Erik Lindberg. Mors Bergstan, Loren Glassen, Jean Quist, also belatedly received Peggy Pages, Treasurer. Each so pleased to be a

recipient. Others entitled to the pin but not able to be present due to distances were Larry Silver, Art Quist and Lucile Jeppson. A little history: Mors, Loren, Larry, Art and Lucile all “grew up” at North Star. Their parents were strong, active leaders during North Star’s early years.

Members were thrilled to hear that again North Star candidate for Midsummer was selected as Queen. Madison Cornwell (borrowed from Seaborg Lodge), Kellie Spaberg (Evening Star), Svea and Columbia will be Nicole Ostlund from Viking. Our congratulations!

We regret hearing the loss of Perry Carlson (Skandia). This fine young man as Swedish Folk Dance leader, leaves many Vasa friends.

Richelle Daniels is off to Uppsala University, Midsummer Queen, 2008, and a double scholarship winner.

We celebrated “Mexican” style on May 5. Jane Hendricks of Nordic Fox catered for us. We just sat back, happily ate and enjoyed! On May 16 it was Spring Fest Day at Vasa Park, the park beautiful in its springtime greens, all some 20 acres. It was a Swedish breakfast, korv och potatis for lunch. A 1,000-year-old Viking game of “Kubb” was held. Classes for “Innebandy,” a new game.

Lenda Earls and hubby Mike are off to Ireland, they won the trip and Eleonora Nyren and myself spent a good time on the Mexican Riviera, even met the Norwegian captain.

Submitted by: Elinore Thornton



**Experience Swedish
Language and Culture
In Minnesota!**

Swedish Elderhostel Week

Program No. 6800-102209

October 25-31, 2009

Concordia Language Villages

8569 Thorsonveien NE

Bemidji, MN 56601

1-800-450-2214

Email: clvevent@cord.edu

Web: www.ConcordiaLanguageVillages

Fylgia Lodge #119

San Francisco, CA

On March 10, 2009, Fylgia Lodge #119 had a Swedish "Antique" Road Show. It was conducted by Carol Martin, our Cultural Leader, and her sister, Marilyn P. Schroeder of Seattle, WA. Over the years Marilyn has assembled a vast collection of Swedish antiques, of which she brought many. The members were asked to bring one or two favorite Swedish items, which they did, and they shared their knowledge of same.

At the annual District Convention of G.G. District #12 on April 24-26, 2009, at Fresno, our own Past Chairman, Richard L. Wooster, became the District Master and our present Chairman, Dr. Ted Olsson, was elected to the Executive Board. We are very proud to have two of our members heling to lead our District.

On May 12, four members of the "Osher Lifelong Learning Institute" (OLLI) were present and told of the history of the programs and the popular courses. This is extended learning programs for people over 50. It is designed to assist members to navigate the future and find ways to continue to make a difference in their own lives and in their community. The courses are available at many of the colleges throughout the United States. Their website is: www.osher.net.

On June 9 we celebrated Swedish National Flag Day and Jean Stohl Nelson gave a history of the celebration and origin of the flag. Mr. Nathan Muus was also present and provided music and disertati of northern Sweden. Our website is: <http://www.scandinavius.com/fylgia.html>

Submitted by: Jean Stohl Nelson

Thule Lodge #127

Jamestown/Bemus Point, NY

Hello from Thule Lodge #127 in the Jamestown/Bemus Point, NY area. Our lodge has seen more cool temperature days this summer than warm days, but our activities at the lodge have not been limited. Meetings with refreshments are held at the lodge at 4123 Pancake Hill Road on the fourth Thursday evenings of the month.

Eugene Johnson is our lodge chairman and always adds humor to every meeting. Alberta Nelson is our treasurer, with Donna Sandberg as the financial secretary. Lucile Marsh is our secretary. Diane Shaw is our chaplain and always reminds



Thule Lodge #127 members recognized for their July birthdays at the lodge meeting are: outer guardsman Nels John Nelson, past cultural leader Allie Nelson Withers, lodge member Florence Swanson, and historian John Sipos.

all that there is strength in unity, and to remember those members who are ill.

Cultural leader Fanchon Fuller adds to each meeting a well planned program with Swedish items on display. Allie Nelson Withers, who is our past cultural leader, usually adds to the cultural programs.

Friday night dinners on the first Friday of each month continue through September. Thule Lodge participated in the annual *Scandinavian Festival* during July in Jamestown, with their famous Swedish meatball dinner. Many people assisted to make the delicious dinner a sell-out, and some of the leaders include Edwin and Donna Sandberg, and Robert and Fanchon Fuller. Their planning and help are very much appreciated.

Thule is planning a Sunday pancake breakfast in August, a Saturday Swiss steak dinner in September and a harvest

dinner in October. All dinners are open to the public, and this inspired some new members recently to our lodge, when they saw the happy times of the lodge.

Recently at a meeting, four lodge members were recognized and honored for their birthdays in July. A large birthday cake was provided by lodge member Susan W. Sipos, and Chaplain Diane Shaw for this special occasion. Recognized were outer guardsman Nels John Nelson, past cultural leader Allie Nelson Withers, lodge member Florence Swanson, and historian John Sipos. A fun time was enjoyed by all.

In October, the lodge meetings will change to the Saturday afternoon and continue through the winter months. If you are in our area, we would be happy for you to visit our lodge" God dag" to all!

Submitted by: John Sipos, Historian

Nobel-Monitor Lodge #130

Cleveland, OH

Our Vasa Voices, the pride of Nobel-Monitor #130 were the program highlights for the June meeting. Cultural leader, Bo Carlsson, introduced the group and described the 10 Folksongs in the program. They included a lively marching and hiking song, a traditional one for graduation, one celebrating the harvest and romantic young love tunes.

Memories were rekindled of the imagery of sparrows, larks, forests and meadows, wind blown anemones and childrens merry carousel song and dances.

Judith Higbee, conductor and accom-

panist Marianne Gotrich, are much appreciated. This was the last concert for Judith. She will be greatly missed.

Marianne Johnson reminded members of the ongoing informal Tuesday morning gathering at Denny's. Many members drop in and have a great time.

Our historian, Walter Holmes, was applauded for his reading of personal letters from past and present members about Vasa and their Swedish heritage.

Midsummer was again delightful at a park with a catered buffet and a beautiful maypole decorated by members.

Submitted by: Beverly Fagerholm, ARS

Tegnér Lodge #149 Oakland, CA

The 115th Midsummer Festival of the Swedish-American Patriotic League of San Francisco, was held at its Swedish resort, Sveadal in the Santa Cruz Mountains on June 20, 2009. This year's queen was a third generation member of Tegnér Lodge #149, Marta Weissenborn. Marta was thrilled to be this year's Queen as she has taken part in many of the past Midsummer Festivals. There were well over 1,000 people in attendance. The morning was taken up by the decoration of the Maypole, which was raised at 12 noon, and followed by dancing around the Maypole. Swedish vendors selling everything Swedish lined the sports lawn. Coffee and Swedish breads, cakes, and cookies were available at the clubhouse patio, and by the pool there were hot dogs, crayfish, and other food available. At 5 p.m. the Swedish Singers, musicians, and people in their Swedish costumes paraded to the stage in front of the clubhouse. The program included singing, the crowning of Queen Marta, and the presentation of Svea, Columbia and the Queen's Court of young ladies representing the various Swedish organizations of the San Francisco Bay area. After the program there was more Swedish dancing around the Maypole, followed by a delicious dinner at the Clubhouse, and dancing until midnight.

Submitted by: Charlotte Weissenborn



Marta Weissenborn

Tegnér Lodge #159, Oakland, CA, was host for the annual Bay Area three-lodge picnic at Redwood Park on July 18. About 50 people attended. We were pleased to have Vasa members from other lodges join us.

Jan Norberg did an outstanding job, all by himself, barbecuing hamburgers, hot dogs and sausages for everyone. Attendees brought a variety of side dishes. The tables were beautifully decorated with yellow and blue tablecloths and vases of summer flowers provided by Diane Eatherly and

Ann Tennis from their gardens. After we had eaten, we had a sing-a-long of Swedish and American songs, including "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles," during which everyone had an opportunity to blow bubbles.

Swede Englund from Skogen Lodge brought some of his copper collectibles and gave a talk about Swedish copper. There was a quiz, won by Rhoda Gilbertson, who received two free tickets to our December Lucia "smörgåsbord."

Then it was time for the "Kubb"

Tournament, directed and refereed by Maury Segerberg of Framåt Lodge. Sveaborg Lodge, with its 3-woman team, composed of Ellen Morrison, Karin Sayegh, and Carol Washburn, was the winner, Framåt, second, and Tegnér, third.

Many people contributed to the success of the picnic including our chairman, Marie Ann Hill, and Marilyn Jackson, Framåt Lodge, and Jesse Lane, Tegnér Lodge, who brought their guitars and played for us.

Submitted by: Ann Tennis



Game of Kubb.

Monitor Lodge #163 Ishpeming, MI



Members from Monitor Lodge.

The plaque that Monitor Lodge #163 erected at the Mining Museum in Ishpeming reads as follows: Swedes on the Iron Range: *From the late 1860s to the early 1870s there was a critical need for experienced underground miners. As large numbers of the Irish labor force in the area had departed for jobs in open pit mining in Colorado, the Cleveland Mining Company went to Sweden for replacements. With promises of passage money loans, they recruited in the Värmland iron mines and Östergötland copper mines. With the successful use of the small pox vaccine and an abundance of potatoes, the population had grown and jobs had become scarce. Recruits signed up willingly to anticipation of finding jobs in the "new" country.*

Ishpeming and Negaunee added new families from many areas in Sweden including Värmland, Åtvidaberg, Bersbo and Östergötland. At one point over thirty percent of the work force at the Cliff Shaft Mine was Swedish immigrants.

The immigrants adjusted well to their new surroundings, learning English and serving in public office. Glenn Seaborg, a native Ishpeming and a descendant of a Swedish immigrant, won the 1951 Nobel Peace Prize for chemistry.

Five Swedish churches were established in Ishpeming. Bethany Lutheran Church and Trinity Lutheran Church are still active today. Cultural traditions remain strong, such as favorite foods and Midsummer celebrations.

The Swedish, along with other Scandinavian immigrants who brought their mining traditions to the Marquette Iron Range played an important role in the history of mining.

Submitted by: Ted Swanson

Gustav V Lodge #175

San Diego, CA

On May 21, 2009 District 15, Local Lodge Gustav V #175 celebrated its 99th anniversary. Twenty-two members attended the celebration held at the *House of Sweden* in Balboa Park, San Diego, California. Kjell Holmes with his Petosa Grand Accordion provided music and Marvin Will on the keyboard. District Master Mary Ethel Pierson and her sister and great grandson were also there.

Lodge Gustav V was organized May 10, 1910. The members first met in the *German Hall* located in what is now downtown San Diego. Starting in 1915, members of the lodge, with volunteer help, built the Vasa Lodge Hall on El Cajon Blvd. The Hall served as the meeting place for 70 years when it was sold in 2001. Lodge meetings are now held in the *House of Sweden* a central location for Swedish-American activities in San Diego.

Up till 1929 lodge meetings were conducted in Swedish. One of the original ritual books in Swedish still exists in Lodge archives. Business meetings were held the first Friday evening of the month, and social get-togethers on the third Friday evening of each month. The members were fortunate in that four, of its own, were musically gifted and formed a band. The band plays for events and dancing. That tradition still exists today when many of the meetings finish with some dancing and much singing of old Swedish-American immigrant songs, e.g. "Hälsa dem där hemma."

It is evident that members of Gustav 5th served an important role in San Diego along with the original *The Swedish Club* eventually forming and shaping the *House of Sweden*. Many members were also leaders in the Swedish community, e.g., S.K.B. Olson was a vice president of San Diego Trust and Savings Bank (a major banking institution playing a major role in the development of the new San Diego), Ed Gabrielson served as San Diego's City Engineer during that same huge growth period, and Einar Olson was Treasurer for the City of San Diego. Göta Hatter and her *Swedish Bakery* provided authentic Swedish items up till recent times. Many of the male members worked as carpenters providing major contractors with reliable, skilled and dedicated employees during San Diego's after-war growth period. Over the years several members of Gustav 5V



Members attending the celebration held at the House of Sweden in Balboa Park, San Diego.

served as District Master for District 15.

Next year will be our 100th anniversary. We are already planning for the Big Bash!

Submitted by: Robert Nelson,
District Deputy

Picture by: Dr. Carl Englund
Sent by: Carol Kerr, Secretary

Tegnér Lodge #224

Missoula, MT

On June 19, our lodge celebrated its 97th Anniversary along with midsummer at the Benson farm. At that time we also gave our recent five new initiates their membership pins. Four of our members with over sixty years were also honored. They were Ina Swanson with 62 years, Gordon Swanson our Past District Master with 60 years, Agnes Nelson with 61 years, and Rick Swanson with 60 years.

Our members and several guests enjoyed a pot luck dinner with the lodge furnishing our famous meatballs. Later, one of our members Roy Anderson, entertained us with several humorous songs from the past.

Submitted by: Rick Swanson



The five initiates from left to right are; Jenny Comstock, Edith Smith, Nicki Smith, Mary Ellen Stubbs, and Linnea Faber.

Brahe Lodge #245

Rockford, IL

Thirty members of our Vasa Brahe Lodge #245 in Rockford Illinois celebrated our "Midsommar" on June 25, 2009. It was the very first meeting held in our newly almost completed lodge since our old lodge burned to the ground in May 2006 from "unknown causes."

When entering the front door, visitors are greeted by large Vasa yellow letters embedded in the blue hallway floor. Inside one can see the spacious hall with blue flooring and yellow decorated tables. This was a wonderful "Midsommar" we were able to celebrate

in our new lodge that we can now use the entire year! "Jättefint"!!! We all eagerly partook in a delicious "smörgåsbord" provided by our members.

Now that we finally have a new lodge, we hope to rebuild and expand our membership of our Brahe Lodge #245 in our beautiful Vasa Park in Rockford Illinois! We are indebted to the members who have worked so hard these past three years in the monumental task of building a new lodge for all of us. "Tack så mycket allihop! Heja Sverige!"

Submitted by: D. G. Eksten, Member

Svea Lodge #253

Indianapolis, IN

In May, Svea #253 hosted the Lake Michigan district convention in Indianapolis. The theme of the convention was *Nordic Innovations*. Many of our members participated in one way or another making the convention a great success.

In the past few months we have had many interesting cultural programs including April's "Swedish Provinces: People and Places" this program was coordinated by Charlotte Svenson and included oral and video presentations on the provinces of Farmland by Charlotte Svenson, *Jämtland* by Michelle Escalante, *Västergötland* by Carin Young, and *Småland* by Marvin Anderson. The refreshments that day were a delicious Pea Soup supper which was a benefit for *Sveaskolan #210* the proceeds from the supper will be used to help pay for student instruction in Swedish language and customs and class work supplies. Several of our members came together to prepare the delicious food.

In May Ann-Katrin Roth presented a musical program featuring famous Swedish singer Alice Babs with Svend Asmussen and Ulrik Neumann.

In June Edward Hultgren presented a historical program about the *Battle of Poltava*. This battle was Between Sweden's King Carl XII and Tsar Peter of Russia took place three hundred years ago in Poltava in the Ukraine where Sweden's army was overwhelmed by twice as many Russians.

In June our members were invited to two different Midsummer events. Our traditional midsummer celebration was held at the home of Jim Lindgren and Brenda Myers. We had a pitch-in picnic followed by the decorating of the Majstång and dancing. The following week our members were invited to a St. Johns-Midsummer celebration at the Latvian club where meetings are held. A "Majstång" was installed and a Grand March was led and folk dancing was led by *Dans Nordenand* members of Svea.

Submitted by: Michelle Escalante



Members eagerly partook in a delicious "smörgåsbord."

Skandia Lodge #247

Pasadena, CA

The calendar brings us from Mothers' Day through to Fathers' Day and in between there are the expectations and fulfillments as well as graduation time. Congratulations to all of them as well as all the rest of our members celebrating the achievements of their families.

Viking Lodge has celebrated their 96th anniversary at the Ports of Call Restaurant in San Pedro; many members of Skandia joined the party.

I was very pleased to be able to visit the Huntington Library on Saturday, June 20, 2009 and see the *amorphophallus titanum*, commonly referred to as the "stinky flower" which is really not stinky after the first eight hours that it blooms. It was absolutely fascinating to see a flower taller than I, to see the mother plant that produced the first of its kind flower in California in 1999, to realize the second blossom was in 2002 and now the third in 2009. There is no predicting when the next will occur. What a marvel and only a mile from home.

Hope you all had a wonderful summer and please remember to attend the Lodge meetings! Keep smiling and stay strong!

Article by: Jackie Ahlen, Chairman
Submitted by: Bob Solt

Svea Lodge #296

Erie, PA

Our lodge began summer with our annual gathering for Midsommer at Waldameer Park. There was good food and fellowship (with some rain added).

Next was a treat by Swedish organist Magnus Sundman and his wife, Kristina. They had a concert at St. John's Lutheran Church. He is a church organist in Gotland, Sweden. Kristina accompanied him on recorder.

July brought our annual dinner theatre trip. We sang "Some Enchanted Evening" – a tribute to Rodgers and Hammerstein.

Also we attended the Scandinavian Festival held in Jamestown, NY, on July 18 and 19.

Obviously we do not disband our activities for the summer months.

Submitted by: Linda Collin



Tom Johnson and grandson – both looking very Swedish!



This grandmother MADE the Swedish dresses for herself and her granddaughter.

Harmoni Lodge #472

Portland, OR

Many members of Harmoni Lodge #472, Portland, OR, enjoyed a social meeting of the lodge held at Hollywood Bowl in Portland. For a small fee of \$10 per member (the rest covered by the lodge), the evening started with a meal of cold cuts, salad, breads, soft drinks, and coffee. After getting their fill, bowlers then assembled at the lanes for two lines of bowling. Much fun and camaraderie ensured with some people currently on bowling leagues and some who had not bowled in years. The teams were chosen randomly (no rhyme or reason). They were then cheered on by a team of cheerleaders (led by Alice Harris who had broken her arm a few months ago and could not bowl). She supplied the cheerleading enthusiasm and also the bubbles that were encased in something that looked like an ice cream cone and smelled of chocolate. The winning team consisted of Vic Harris (organizer of the event), Chris Harris, Elisabeth Mendenhall, and Toko Harris. Don't you just love their trophies? The individual scores varied greatly, but the biggest thrill was then Toko got a turkey (three strikes in a row). All enjoyed a fun evening.

Submitted by: Judy Rust

Photo by: Jan Ekberg



Bowling Champions!

Lindbergh Lodge #494

Palo Alto, CA

June meetings always find us preparing for the annual *Midsummer Festival*. To get us all in the right mood, flowers and leaves were provided for all to decorate their crowns with the proper greenery. With our membership adequately decorated, the meeting proceeded with introductions, business items and appropriate beverages before dinner. Our dinner was a typical smorgasbord prepared by our culinary-skilled members.

The program was given by one of our own members, Dean Babcock, who is an expert on *Rune Stones*. The stones have cryptic writings that started during the Viking era. They wrote about heroes, dragons, ancient kings and Nordic myths. Rune stones have been found elsewhere in Europe, but the bulk of them are in Scandinavia, especially in Sweden. *The Kensington Rune stone* was also discussed a possible relic from early Viking exploration of the *New World*.

On June 20, the annual *Patriotic League Midsummer Celebration* was held in Sveadal. It was a lovely day and the setting was perfect. The San Francisco Bay Area has had a midsummer celebration, the very first started here by the *Scandinavian Society* in 1859. *The Swedish American Patriotic League* has held one here each year since 1894.

It was a very special year for our lodge as our Chairman Chuck Wallin's granddaughter, Caitlin Wallin, represented America during the festivities as the traditional "Columbia." She has been a member of Lindbergh Lodge for four years.

The midsummer pole was decorated and raised, and enthusiastic dancers pranced around it including small children, and even a great number of senior citizens. Swedish music was provided by Jan Nordin.

There were Swedish boutiques offering a variety of ethnic items. After a traditional meatball dinner, the evening was spent dancing under the stars. This annual event is very popular for the members of the Swedish organizations and their friends.

Submitted by: Muriel Nelson Beroza

On July 10 Lindbergh Lodge celebrated its 82nd anniversary with a gala affair that included a catered dinner and a great 7-piece band for dancing and entertainment! We were pleased to include amongst our guests and visitors the following Vasa dignitaries; Grand Lodge Executive Board Member Tore Kellgren, New District Master Richard Wooster, Vice District Master Scott Mathews, Past District Master Kathy Mathews, District Exec. Board Members "Swede" Englund, Vicky Fedor-Thurman and District Deputy Mona Clemens.

The festivities included a special performance by Lodge member Gerry Blaufarb (in appropriate costume) with his tap dance rendition of "I'm A Yankee Doodle Dandy," with everyone singing

Continued on page 24

Lindbergh Lodge #494

Continued from page 23

along. The Chairman then asked all members and guests with a July birthday to come forward while he corralled our usual special quartet to lead everyone in singing "Happy Birthday" and "Ja må han leva" followed by a rousing four hurrahs.

With the band playing many popular songs during dessert and coffee, everyone was ready to get out on the dance floor and do some fancy stepping. It was a very enjoyable evening, the food was excellent and the fellowship was great, everyone was pleased that they had participated in this event.

Submitted by: Chuck Wallin

Phoenix Lodge #677

Phoenix, AZ

With sadness in our hearts we announce the passing of our Chairman, Barbara Elaine Langland. Barbara was born October 18, 1932 in Albert City, IA and died November 6, 2008 in Phoenix, AZ. She had been a member of Phoenix Vasa Lodge #677 for many years. Her chairmanship was from 2005 to November, 2008. Mrs. Langland married her husband, Leo, on August 15, 1959. She is survived by her husband, her two sons, Tom and Jeff, two daughters-in-law, Dana and Edie, five grandchildren and her brother Ron Hedman. Barbara was very active in church activities, having been a member of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Phoenix. Other activities included playing the piano, singing, writing poetry, membership in Sons of Norway and the Red Hat Society. Her creativity extended to knitting, crocheting, and making greeting cards for sale at our Vasa boutiques. I personally feel honored to have bought a hand-knit sweater in the likeness of the Swedish flag she made the year before she died. We deeply miss her vivacious personality and hearty enthusiasm she brought to everything she was involved in.

Submitted by: Sara Nilsson, Chairman

Norden Lodge #684

Fresno, CA

Norden Lodge in Fresno, CA, under the wonderful guidance of our Chairman Roselind Gaviola and her great committee, Mike and Corky Peterson and Fran Johnson, and with the help of many lodge members, hosted the Golden Gate #12

District Convention, April 24-26. We believe it was a wonderful event. We had a number of fundraisers which included gift baskets provided by many of the attendees. Norden member Marci Johansson made a beautiful quilt which was raffled off and the lucky winner was Diane Maynard from Framåt Lodge.

The following week we had our annual "Valborgsmässoafton" meeting with hot dogs, music and a small bonfire.

Submitted by: Inger Lindhe



Marci Johansson made this beautiful quilt. The lucky winner, Diane Maynard, is holding the quilt with Ted Hess, MC.

Sierran Kronan Lodge #737

Roseville, CA

John Pearson, our co-Cultural Leader, and his wife Anne-Marie have been members of Sierra Kronan for two years. They were formerly members of Svea Lodge in San Jose. John has informed and entertained us this year with excellent presentations.

In April, he displayed several Dala Horses from his large home collection and explained their history and how they became a Swedish tradition. John and Anne-Marie started collecting after they were married and whenever either of their parents traveled to Sweden, they brought back Dala Horses, all different sizes. Their children enjoyed playing with them; the largest one being just the right size for a 2-3 year old to sit on.

Dala Horses were carved by the male workers during the long, cold evenings in the woods after exhausting days of chopping down trees for the clock and furniture-making trades. Horses and other toys were made from unused wood. Initially they were made for the children. However, during times of hardship they were used for bartering or selling to keep

food on the table. Eventually this was developed into a successful cottage industry.

The first toys were made in the early 1600s. The design as we know it today was developed in the early 1800s. Many whittlers, painters, and helpers were involved. One of the most famous painters was Stika Erik Hansson. He developed the technique of painting with two colors on one brush and was sought after for his expertise. You may find more information about him and Dala Horses in the book "The Wooden Horses of Sweden."

In June, John gave a presentation on the Great Copper Mountain in Falun, Sweden - the mining excavation called "The Great Pit." The town of Falun received its Charter in 1641, but there had been mining of copper in this region since at least the 13th century. A Swedish botanist visited the mine and described it as "*The greatest marvel in Sweden but terrible as hell itself.*" Over one thousand men worked under dangerous and unhealthy conditions in the mine and a similar number were employed in the copper works. Many historic buildings remain in the surrounding area and then as now they have been painted in red ochre from the mine. The red pigment has been produced on an industrial scale since 1764. The Great Pit was also Sweden's largest gold and silver mine and was closed down in December of 1992.

The whole area has been declared to be of great historical interest and is listed in the *UNESCO World Heritage Sites*. The Mining Museum near the Great Pit has a collection of historic documents and pictures. The home of Swedish artist, Carl Larsson, is 9 miles away in Sundborn.

John was born and raised in Butte, Montana, one time known as 'the richest hill on earth' due to the abundance of high grade copper embedded deep under the surface of the town. It was a 'company town' run by the *Anaconda Copper Mining Co.* The town was very distinguishable from a distance due to the scattering of the Gallows Frames or Head Frames which housed the mechanism for bring the ore up to the surface and the miners down into the various levels. As time went on there got to be lesser amounts of high grade ore brought out and the 'company' decided to enter into the open pit mining phase similar to the big pit in Falun, Sweden.

Submitted by: Carol Nesewich, Historian

Jubileum Lodge #755

Madison, WI

Over twenty Vasa Jubileum Lodge #755 members and guests gathered at Arbor Covenant Church on Saturday the 20th of June to celebrate "Midsommar." Jake and Marge Gruel, Lake Michigan District Lodge #8 Deputies, were also in attendance, and we thank them for their interest in our Lodge and presence at many of our activities.

"Midsommar" was on one of the first really warm sunny days. We weren't used to summer weather yet, so we showed a lot more enthusiasm for sitting in the shade, eating from the "smörgåsbord," listening to accordionist Kjell-Erik Anderson, and talking, than we did for dancing around the "Midsommarstång."

Submitted by: Robert Merrill, historian



"Midsommar" is a time for dancing barefoot in the grass. So off come the clogs!

Nordik Folk Lodge #761

Hammond, IN

Our chairman Steve Westlund was ill, and could not attend one of our meetings so our Vice-Chairman, Michael Pearson Jr. was called upon to stand in and chair this meeting. Michael is 19 years old, and has been a member of Nordik Folk Lodge since it was chartered in January of 2006, and his father Mike Pearson Sr. was the lodge's first Chairman.

Michael is a sophomore at Purdue University and has been a member of Nordikids CC #208 since January 2002. We believe that he may very well be one of the youngest, if not THE youngest member to ever chair a lodge meeting. He did a fine job of running the meeting keeping everyone on the topic, and we are so grateful to have this young member who will be part of our Vasa Order for many years to come.

Submitted by: Lynda Ann Smith,
Youth Supervisor and Grand Lodge Youth Director



Michael chairs meeting.

SWEDISH NEWS

Logen Göteborg Nr 452

Verksamhetsberättelse för Logen Göteborg under året 2008. Vårprogrammet inleddes i mars, med Vinprovning hos Mun-skänkarna i restaurang *Tintomara, Burgården*. Vi fick prova månadens nya viner. Därefter serverades vi en helt superb lammgryta där våra favoritviner verkligen kom till sin rätt.

I april månad möttes en skara glada vasasyskon för en god lunch på den italienska restaurangen *Othello* på Östra Hamngatan. Vi lät oss väl smaka av den italienska maten.

I mitten av maj åkte vi på guidade turen "Gårdarna runt sjön." Vädret var mycket vackert denna dag och vi färdades med buss runt sjön Åsnen genom en underbar ljusgrön lövskog. Resan var inspirerad av Birgith Sparres roman. Vi fick bl.a. besöka *Torpa Stenhus*, en av landets bäst bevarade medeltidsborgar.

Den sjätte juni firade vi Nationaldagen. Denna gång gick tåget från Stora teatern till *Kanaltorget* vid Lilla Bomen. Efteråt intog vi en god lunch på uteserveringen vid Operan.

Fjärde juli firades liksom året innan hemma hos sy. Ulla-Britt Essgren, med traditionsenlig mat. Ett stort antal



vasasyskon hade slutit upp från när och fjärran. Firandet avslutades med rolig "Kubb-tävling" i Ulla-Britts trädgård.

I september inleddes Höstprogrammet med Carin Mannheimers välbesökta tragikomiska föreställning "Sista dansen." Vi blev ett femtontal vasasyskon som fick se föreställningen, vi berördes djupt.

Under oktober samlades vi i *Galleri Floras Rike*, Botaniska trädgården, för att beskåda utställningen "Kakao-en dryck för Gudar." Ett intressant föredrag om kakaoträdet och chokladframställning hölls av intendent vid Botaniska och Berzelii choklad & konfekt hade hand om försäljning och smakprov.

I november hörde vi ett intressant och roande föredrag "Amerikalinjen - historier och historik." Hans Petter Petersson tog oss med på en spännande kryssning jorden runt. Skeppsredare och andra kända

Firandet av Fjärde juli 2008, är tagna i Ulla-Britt Essgrens trädgård, Landvetter. Stående fr. v. 1:a raden: Thorbjörn Ålund, Berit Hörberg Winmalm, Birgit Lindblad, Lars Rosén, Britt Rosén, Ulla-Britt Essgren, Torsten Olsson, Ulla Setterberg, Rune Werling, Eva Westin, Monica Olsson. 2:a raden: fr.v. Ingvar Winmalm, Gun Andréa, Charlotte Börjesson, Brita Jacobsson, Åslög Halén, Kerstin Toft. I förgrunden: Ola Hansson och Martin Lindskog.

personligheter figurerade flitigt i hans berättelser. *Göteborgs Hembygdsförbund* arrangerade.

I mitten av november samlades vi för en lunchträff på amerikanska restaurangen *Texas Long Horn*. Flera medlemmar hade sett fram emot denna träff eftersom vi inte på länge besökt någon amerikansk restaurang. Maten var smaklig!

I december besökte vi som vanligt julbasaren och julfestligheterna i *Kronhusbodarna*. Här finns en alldeles speciell julstämning! Samtal med de göteborgska julförsäljarna ledde både till skinkecept och senapsköp.

Under året har vi haft en fin gemenskap. Kulturledaren tackar för ett trevligt år! I Sanning och Enighet!

Insänt av: Margaretha Ålund,
Kulturledare
Foto: Margaretha Ålund

Logen Skåne Nr 570



Logens Skånes deltagare på vårutflykten KL var fotograf.

Vårens sista möte hölls den 17 april med bl.a genomgång av motionerna inför distriktsmötet i Växjö i maj. Kl br. Olle Olsson berättade om Kulturledartreffen som hållits i Möckelsnäs Herrgård där även SLKL Inger Hanright deltog, br. Olle berättade också om att Professor Ann-Charlotte Hanes Harvey blivit Årets Svensk-Amerikan. Ordförande br. Carl-Olov Rindstål delade ut 25 års märket till tre av våra medlemmar sy. Lena och br. Göran Persson och br. Bertil Övall.

Kvällens måltid var en härligt god Amerikansk pannbiff med tillbehör. Tidigare nämnde egna medlemmen berättade om sin släktforskning som han gjort med stor framgång i Amerika.

Söndagen den 24 maj var vi 20 logemedlemmar som gjorde en kulturell vårutflykt på Österlen. Vi träffades och startade turen i Ystad på tidig förmiddag och gjorde första stoppet vid Ravlunda kyrka, som ligger i Kiviks församling i östra Skåne, kyrkan byggdes på 1200-talet och inne i kyrkans finns kalkmålningar från 1200 och 1500-talen. På denna kyrkogård ligger han som anses som en av Sveriges största författare begravd, Fritiof Nilsson "Piraten" han var född i Vollsjö i Skåne och hans första roman var "Bombibitt och jag," som var baserat på sin egen barndom. Hans gravsten var intressant att se med en minst sagt annorlunda inskription "Här under är askan av en man som hade vanan att skjuta allt till morgondagen. dock bättrades han på sitt yttersta och dog verkligen den 31 januari 1972." Vi fortsatte nu till Kivik där vi stannade och beundrade statyn av Piraten och huset han hade bott i, därefter promenerade vi runt hörnet där sy. Agneta Jönsson och br. John Andersson bor, här hade sy.

Agneta dukat fram goda smörgåsar och diverse drycker som smakade bra i det fina vårvädret. Nästa stopp på vår utflykt var på medeltidsborgen Gimmingehus som började byggas år 1499. Skåne tillhörde då Danmark och borgen byggdes som bostad åt den Danske riddarens Jens Holgersen Ulfstrand, borgens hushåll var mycket exklusivt, här fanns de dyraste föremål som fanns att köpa i Europa på 1400-talet bl.a venetianska glas och spansk keramik. Detta är verkligen ett spännande utflyktsmål. Vi avslutade dagen med att köra till Löderups Strandbads Restaurang där vi åt ett härligt gott smörgåsbord. Naturligtvis finns det mycket mer att berätta om dessa platser och andra sevärdheter i Skåne så passa på om ni besöker oss här i södra delen av Sverige.

Insänt av: Olle Olsson, kulturledare



Logens VO br. Per Dahlman beundrar statyn av Fritiof Nilsson "Piraten."

Logen Stockholm Nr 589

Our lodge had a nice visit from Karen Snowberg, cultural leader of our sister lodge Göta Lejon Nr 84 USA, at the end of July. She was also here two years ago! We were eight Vasa members from Logen Stockholm Nr 589 that took a boat ride with Karen to Waxholm. There we walked around, and looked in all the little stores, and admired art at Lena Linderholms boutique. We had lunch at the principal hotel and then took a ferry to the fortress. It was interesting to visit the museum in the fortress. After a full day we took the bus back to Stockholm.

Submitted by: Marianne Kneczke



From left Sonja Hall, Karen Snowberg, Lotta Hall, Viwi Svensson, Marianne Kneczke, Margareta Grahn, Bo Lejseryd, Bengt Granath, Viola Hellström.

Logen Carlskrona Nr 601

Lördagen 13 juni var det åter dags för att träffas på Hässlegården hos Sy. Kärstin Holmberg-Jönsson. Ett sjuttioal (70) logesyskon och vänner hade mött upp denna dag. Vi hade gäster från logerna Ronneby, Växjö, Västervik och logen Skåne. Trots att vädret var opålitligt var stämningen redan från början på topp. Kaffe och jordgubbstårter smakade bra och hade en strykande åtgång.

Ingen sommarfest utan sedvanlig tipsrunda och lekar och dessa genomfördes med glatt humör och många glada skratt. I väntan på att grillen skulle bli varm underhölls vi av trubadurerna Inge Wijk och Sven Nilsson och vår logebroder Lennart Jändel underhöll och kompede

Continued on page 27

Logen Carlskrona Nr 601

Continued from page 26

med sitt dragspel. Allsången hördes vida omkring. Efter grillningen och alla var mätta och belättna, intogs den lövade logen där det blev dans och lotteridragning med många fina vinster. Kvällen avslutades med ytterligare underhållning av Sven och Lennart. Ännu en sommarfest i sann Vasaanda var avslutad.

Insänt av: Gun Sellerberg



Inge Wijk, Sven Nilsson och Lennart Jändel.

Logen Eskilstuna Nr 633

För att lära oss mer om den stora utvandringen till Amerika, har vår loge Eskilstuna Nr 633 anordnat en studiecirkel. Ett 10-tal medlemmar har träffats under hösten 2008 och våren 2009. Vi har haft föreläsare, sett bildspel och varje deltagare har fördjupat sig i och berättat om olika aspekter i ämnet, vilket har varit mycket givande. Vi avslutade kursen med en gemensam resa med buss till Växjö, där även fler logesyskon deltog.

Vi besåg Utvandrarernas Hus i Växjö, där vi också intog en lätt lunch. Resan gick vidare till ett hotell i Emmaboda. På lördagskvällen hade vi mycket trevligt i Moshultamåla vandrarhem. Vi åt god mat bestående av "Mobergare" med tillbehör. Där fick vi också en förstklassig underhållning av Carl Werner Pettersson och hans medföljande dragspelare. Carl Werner, som rest omkring mycket i svenskbygderna i Amerika, hade mycket intressant att berätta och framförde många visor.

På söndagen guidade han oss i bussen i "Mobergland" och vi insåg alla, att en bättre guide kunde vi inte ha fått. I strålande sol besökte vi Mobergsstenen vid Mobergs födelseplats, hans skola i Moshulta, utvandrarseriens Korpamoen och avslutade rundturen med kaffe vid

Åkerby vägskäl, där Carl Werner läste några väl valda och gripande rader ur boken Utvandrarerna. Efter en mycket minnesvärd resa återkom vi till Eskilstuna på söndagskvällen.

Insänt av: Lillemor Karlberg, KL

In order to learn more about the great emigration to America from 1850 to 1930, our lodge Eskilstuna #633 had arranged a class for this purpose. About ten people have met during the fall of 2008 and spring 2009. Almost everyone of us has concentrated on different aspects of the emigration: Why did people leave their native country to seek such an uncertain future in a country so far away from home? What about their journey over the Atlantic Ocean? How was the condition of their ships? How could they settle in America and so on?

There were plenty of letters going back to Sweden at that time, and many books have been written as well. We tried to collect as much information as possible, and we also had the opportunity to call people from other lodges to tell us their stories.

At our last meeting we all went by bus to Småland to visit the Emigration Center in Växjö.

We had a very nice Saturday evening! Carl Werner Pettersson entertained us by telling us about his experiences from his travels in America where he had visited several Swedish settlements. He also sang many songs accompanied by an accordion. On Sunday morning Carl Werner took us on a guided tour to places well-known from the books of the Swedish author Wilhelm Moberg. After a very memorable day we returned to Eskilstuna.

Submitted by: Lillemor Karlberg, CL



Högtidligt med nationalsången The Star-Spangled Banner, vilken för svenskar inte är helt lätt, men alla gjorde sitt bästa och sången klingade ut bland träden. Från v Maj-Britt och Roy Sampson, Carin Lundvall, Berit Söderström och Hans Karlberg.

Vi blev ca 50-talet Vasasyskon och gäster som mötte upp på Folke och Carin Lundvalls sommarnöje med byggnader från slutet av 1600-talet. Vasabrodern Roy Sampson från Logen Ewning Star Lodge #426 och Lars Liljenstolpe från Eskilstunalogen, var de som såg till att den största symbolen av alla, Stjärnbanet, kom snyggt och elegant upp på flaggstången som det påbjudes och med den vördnad som den vackra flaggan förtjänar medan Vasamedlemmarna sjöng den amerikanska nationalsången.

En härlig eftermiddag blev det med Vasasyskon från USA och Logen Bråviken #751. Väl ordnat av Logen Eskilstuna som ser till att traditionen hålls levande och som en gång startades av Vasasyskonen Hans-Olov och Berit Söderström 1994.

Insänt av: Lisbeth H Qvarfordt

FDM DL 19

Foto: Inge Hallberg HM #751, SFF, BLF

Logen Höganäs Nr 634



Sy Evy hälsade också välkommen till en amerikansk gäst, Br Bertil Winter, LL Golden Valley Nr 616.

Vi höll vårt Sverige-Amerikamöte den 4 juli på Amerikas nationaldag. Vi var nästa 90 Vasasyskon som samlades på Hemgården i Viken. Vår Ordförande Evy Lindstrand hälsade oss alla välkomna och då speciellt vår nya DD Br Alf Nilsson LL Kärnan Nr 608. Sy Evy hälsade också välkommen till en amerikansk gäst, Br Bertil Winter, LL Golden Valley Nr 616. Efter dessa infördes övriga gäster.

Parentation utfördes för avlidne medlemmen Sy Maja Pålsson. Vi fick två nya medlemmar, Sy Barbro och Br Kent Andréasson. Faddrarna Br Jan Berg, O Sy Evy Lindstrand och Sy Ingrid Berg.

Continued on page 28

Logen Höganäs Nr 634

Continued from page 27

En mycket fin fanparad utfördes av Sy Bodil Larsson, Sy Gertrud Green, Br Gunnar Lindstrand och Br Lauritz Bohlin. Sy Ewy Blomgren läste prologen till fanorna. Sy Bodil Walles, vår tidigare DD, fick mottaga logens förtjänststecken och Br John Walles fick mottaga en vacker blombukett av vår O Sy Ewy Lindstrand. Sy Bodil och Br John överlämnade två vackra kandelabrar som gåva till Logen.

KL Ingrid Berg berättade om USA:s självständighetsförklaring som ägde rum den 4 juli 1776. Då förklarade de 13 nordamerikanska kolonierna sig själva fristående från Storbritannien. LH Sy Birgit Olsson berättade om vårt tionde Sverige-Amerikamöte. Det var den 28 juni 1980. Mötet hölls i Nyhamnsläge och där var 128 deltagare, 51 egna, 17 amerikanska logesyskon, 46 svenska gäster, 11 recepiender och 3 amerikanare som inte var medlem i någon loge.

Mötet avslutades traditionsenligt med en vacker ljussläckningscermoni. KL Sy Ingrid Berg talade till de nya medlemmarna och hälsade dem välkomna till vår Orden. Br Kent tackade för att han och Sy Barbro fått förmånen att bli medlemmar. Niklas Larsson underhöll med musik under middagen och spelade sedan upp till dans.

Insänt av: Ingrid Berg, KL

Foto: Hans Bogren

Logen Härnösand Nr 673



Kjell Hamrin hjälper till med mic och noter när Kerstin Gjersvold spelar och sjunger.

Till att fira 4:e juli inbjöd familjen Wigert i Brunne traditionsenligt till picknick på farmen. Även vänner är alltid välkomna. Ett 70-tal hörsammade inbu-

dan och kom, för en som vanligt trevlig dag i solen på landet. Kalle Wigert hälsade oss välkommna och vände sig speciellt till besökare från Logen Mälärhöjden Nr 573 och Logen Sundsvall Nr 705, däribland MSLR Tore Tellberg.

Vi sjöng "Du gamla du fria" varefter Kalle Wigert läste hedrandet av Amerikas och Kanadas flaggor.

Dagens underhållning inleddes av Stigsjö spelmän med sång och spel. Pastor Ove Bylund utgick ifrån några blommor i sin dagsbetraktelse och avslutades med *Förgåt mig ej*, en blomma som kan påminna oss om att det alltid finns någon i vår närhet, som aldrig glömmer oss. Som avslutning sjöng vi en sång som hade liknande innehåll. Senare underhöll Cecilia Nilsson och spelade till Gerd Holms folksånger som innehöll både *kurling och joddel*. Alla ska visst jodla nästa år!!!

Efteråt smakade det alldeles utmärkt med picknicken. Kalle inbjöd alla medverkande att hämta sin lunch vid den inomhus uppdukade buffen som innehöll både amerikanska och svenska rätter.

Sen blev det dags för Kjell Hamrin att presentera den så omtyckta och ofta förekommande Kerstin Gjersvold. Hon sjöng några kända sånger till eget gitarackompanjemang. Vänner Knut Nordkvist återkom också även detta år och reciterade några av den mängd dikter han kan utantill.

Egil med sina glada cittraflickor Barbro och Ulla-Britt, kom också och spelade och sjöng.

Margareta Tellberg, ordf. i Logen Sundsvall Nr 705 tackade för en som vanligt innehållsrik och mycket trevlig dag hos familjen Wigert. Stigsjö spelmän avslutar sen dagen med några låtar och Kalle inbjöd till kaffe med hembakt.

Insänt av: Barbro Sundgren, KL

Foto: Ulla-Britt Nordin

Logen Sundsvall Nr 705

The Annual Surströmmings Dinner, A "Smelly Affair"!

Members of Sundsvall Lodge #705 and guests celebrated the arrival of the "Surströmming" season on August 23, 2009. The weather was a typical, clear, early fall evening, enhanced by the lovely home and gardens of Margareta and Tore Tellberg. Their home is located at the summer resort of *Tranviken* on the island of Alnön, Medelpad. Margareta is the chairperson of the



Gathering before the feast.

Sundsvall Lodge and her husband Tore, is Sweden's representative to the Grand Lodge.

After socializing and a short business meeting, everybody was invited to sit down for the traditional "Surströmmings" feast. (I will explain what "surströmming" is, and its history at the end of this report).

The host expertly opened several cans of the featured delicacy. The strong "fragrance" of the fermented herring (Surströmming) soon became noticeable at the patio where everybody waited with great anticipation. In addition to the "Surströmming," the traditional feast included potatoes, red onion, tomato slices, sour cream, and thin, flat bread with butter and hard cheese. Beer, snaps (aquavit), and soft drinks were served.

As the eating progressed numerous "snaps visor" were sung with gusto! It is amazing how many different "snaps visor" exist in print and in people's memory! After coffee, dessert, after dinner drinks, and some story telling, everyone expressed their tanks to the hosts for an enjoyable evening together with Lodge friends.

The History of Surströmming

In the time period 1520 -1530 the Swedish people suffered because of wars and other problems. Bad credit with various trading partners resulted in difficulties to import needed supplies, such as salt.

Salt prices became very high and salted herring was too expensive for most people. The herring that was caught in the Baltic seas has lower fat content than the herring (known as sill) caught in the Atlantic. When the Baltic herring was salted without sufficient amount of salt it would start a fermentation process if the conditions were right. Fermentation does not occur within barrels with sill because of the higher fat content in sill.

"Surströmming" became a steady diet for people in Norrland. Additional political problems in the early 1700-hundreds

Continued on page 29

Logen Sundsvall Nr 705

Continued from page 28

caused further shortages of expensive salt. The new salt problems resulted in increased demands for "Surströmming." Processing plants for "Surströmming" started to appear along the northern coast to satisfy the increased demand from Norrland as well as other parts of Sweden.

FAMILY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Agda Martinson



Agda Martinson, with Cindy Hanham and Helen Mingram with the birthday cake.

The 100th birthday of Agda Martinson was celebrated by Nord Lodge #392 members at its May meeting. Her actual birthday is May 23. There were 40 plus members at the dinner provided by the gentlemen of the lodge to treat the ladies for Mother's Day.

We were treated to piano music played by Cynthia Lindhe Zimmerman. She played songs she had learned as a child in Sweden, and that Agda would also remember. A floral bouquet was presented to Agda by Matthew Hanham, as is a tradition in Sweden.

Agda was born in Osby, Skåne, and took passage from Göteborg to the United States in 1926, landing at Ellis Island. She was asked to remain at Ellis Island while her papers were checked, so the story goes. When everything was cleared she was allowed entry into the USA. She traveled by train to Chicago where she met her brother, Robert who was dating a young lady named Astrid. Astrid became a new friend of Agda and they eventually worked together.

Robert had a friend named Albert and he introduced him to Agda at a dance at

How is Surströmming made?

The Baltic herring is caught in the late spring. The fresh herring is immersed in open containers containing salt brine for about one day and then the heads are removed and the insides are cleaned out. Next the fish is stacked in barrels with a weak salt solution. The barrels are sealed with lids and are placed outside in the sun. When the fermentation process has started,

the barrels are placed in 15 – 18 degree Celsius fermentation storage for up to eight weeks. After that the herring is packed in cans, where the fermentation process continues at a slower rate. The cans are now ready for distribution to customers.

Note Fermented herring is not the same as sour herring.

**Submitted by: Erik Hansson,
Member of Sundsvall Lodge #705**

the Viking Temple in Chicago. After some time they married and their first child Evert was born in 1930. Times were difficult as the country was sliding into a deep depression and the family decided to return to Sweden in 1931. They arrived in Göteborg and made their way to Osby, where they purchased a piece of land in Hassalrod on which Albert built them a house. Their second child, Helen, was born on the second floor of the new home. They planted fruit trees and had a good life with the two children. In time Albert felt that the economy was improving in the United States and he took the ship to America once again. When he knew that they could have a good life in Chicago, he wrote Agda to come with the children and return to Chicago. This occurred in 1936. They purchased a house with two stories, renting the first floor and living on the second floor.

Agda joined the Vasa Order of America in Chicago, we believe, Kronan #179. The family moved to Hayward, California in 1966. She transferred to Tre Kronor Lodge #649 in 1967. Albert retired and they moved to Stockton and Agda then transferred to Nord Lodge #392 in 1980. She was presented her 50-year jewel in 1999. This year will be her 60 year anniversary. Agda served Nord Lodge as Chaplain for many years and she faithfully attends the monthly meetings enjoying the time with her friends and fellow members.

**Submitted by: Helen Mingram,
Nord Lodge #392, Stockton, CA**

Ruby Peterson Nichelini

Ruby Peterson Nichelini, a 55-year honorary life member of Tegnér Lodge #149, Oakland, CA, reached her 100th birthday on April 30, 2009, the same birthday as King Carl Gustaf. She has always been proud of the fact that she shares the "young" King's birthday. Ruby was born in 1909 to her Swedish immigrant parents, August Peterson and Signe Anderson, who met and married in Berkeley, CA, where



Ruby Peterson Nichelini and great-granddaughter, Ella Nichelini.

Ruby was born. At age 21, she married Fred Walter Nichelini, the son of Swiss Italian immigrants living in St. Helena, CA, a marriage that lasted 63 years. Fred and Ruby established their home in Oakland, CA, where they raised two children, Robert and Carol.

Ruby devoted her life to being a Swedish American. In 1945, she and Fred built a cabin in the Swedish resort of Sveadal in the Santa Cruz mountains where she enjoyed working on the Midsummer program for many years. She served as Secretary of the Swedish Ladies Society of Oakland for about 25 years, recording the group's minutes in her beautiful penmanship. She was also the Secretary of the Swedish Cultural Society for many years. She is a past President of the Swedish American Patriotic League (SAPL) of Oakland and the Utile Dulci Club of San Francisco. She held many offices in Tegnér Lodge. She enjoyed working on projects at the Swedish Consulate in San Francisco. Presently her grandson, Michael Nichelini, carries on her traditions as current President of the SAPL-San Francisco. Ruby enjoyed driving her blue Volvo until age 93, and advises eating lots of butter for good health.

**Submitted by: Mary Ann Nichelini/
Ann Tennis**

Continued on page 31

Welcome To Our New Members

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

Tore Kellgren, Grand Lodge Membership Chairman

5971 W. Walbrook Dr.

San Jose, CA 95129

E-mail: tore@kellgren.org

GL SOUTHEASTERN REGION

Florida #554

Charlene Anderson
Nina Mendoza
Rolando Mendoza
Cliff Wigert

Carol Bobb

Dawn Kiesel

Gene Kiesel

Donah Kval

Erwin Kval

Sandra Wright

DL PACIFIC NORTHWEST NO. 13

Solidaritet #396

Miriam Jarmin
K Kue
Michael Smith
Sherry Smith

DL MASSACHUSETTS NO. 2

Brage-Iduna #9

Polly Nelson
Leah Radner

DL PENNSYLVANIA NO. 9

Nobel-Monitor #130

Jackie Elfvin
Amy Johnson
Balder #308
Wyatt Sten

DL PACIFIC SOUTHWEST NO. 15

Scandinavian #667

Richard Pillsbury
Carolyn Taberner
Desert Viking #682
Karl Brink
Lars Jonasson
Carrie Lunstrum-Kosvic
Matthew Lunstrum-Kosvic
Anette McGowan

DL N.Y. NO. 4

Thule #127

Gale Betts
Richard Betts
Robert Betts
David Gorman
Heather Kyser
Everett King
Arthur Olson

DL SUPERIOR NO. 10

Manhem #159

Bromley Carlson
Randolph Erickson
Dennis Linsmeier
Melody Linsmeier
Shawna Linsmeier
Talia Powell

DL NORRA SVERIGE (SWEDEN) NO. 19

Stockholm #589

Arne Moxness
Britt-Marie Moxness
Knallen #745
Gunnar Ödman
Ulla Ödman

DL NEW JERSEY NO. 6

Tryggve #88

Kristina Dugan
Vincent Dugan
Gail Haumacher
Joseph O'Hara
Linneth O'Hara
Jerilyn Higgins
Eugene Kearney
James Pnczek

Monitor #163

Brian Larson
Stephen Pohlman
Todd Pohlman
James Sundberg
Framat #463
Natasha Alexander
Marilyn Petersen
Louise Rounds

DL SÖDRA SVERIGE (SWEDEN) NO. 20

Höganäs #634

Barbro Andreasson
Kent Andreasson

Gothiod #486

Nicholas Bernabei

DL GOLDEN GATE NO. 12

Tegner #149

Carina Zamora
Raul Zamora
Sveaborg #449
David Frey
Bradley Larson
Linnea Soderlund

DL ARIZONA NO. 21

Phoenix #677

Lilla Armstrong
Anne Hayes
Elaine Wiggers

DL LAKE MICHIGAN NO. 8

Linde #492

Sam Barrette
Ashley LeBlanc
Viking #730
Christian Amundin

Happy Birthdays

Continued from page 29

Caroline Lindgren



Congratulations to Caroline Lindgren on her 100th birthday on July 17, 2009. She was born Florence Caroline Risem in Ely, MN, on July 17, 1909. Caroline has 4 children, 19 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren, and 3 great-great grandchildren.

She has been a member of Vasa since 1961, first belonging to Orange Blossom Lodge, then Evening Star, and Nordic Lodge #660.

The Nordic Lodge #660 members honored her for her milestone birthday with a cake and refreshments where she shared family history, photos and a story of her

interesting childhood. The story is titled "Memories of Sylvia, The White Princess." The name Sylvia is a fictitious name.

Look under CULTURE.

Submitted by: Mr. and Mrs. Peter Lindgren

Dagmar Ostrom Sheehy



Dagmar Ostrom Sheehy was awarded her 70-year Vasa pin on her 97th birthday in May. The pin was awarded by Chairlady Sonia Farrow. Dagmar has been a member of Miami Lodge #554 longer than any other member in its history. She has served the lodge as Chairlady, Secretary and Cultural Leader in her many years of service.

Submitted by: Miami Lodge #554

NEW BABIES

Leo Henry Jordan



Leo Henry Jordan got his first taste of Swedish hospitality on April 25, 2009, when he was honored with a welcome to our lodge baby shower. Leo was born March 11, 2009, and his parents are Travis and Maggie Jordan of Type, TX. The members and guests had a wonderful time as his grandmother, Charlene Jordan, had some nursery rhymes in Swedish ready for the group to learn. Leo was a perfect honoree as he napped through most of the meeting but seemed to enjoy talking and laughing as mom and dad opened his presents. Everyone enjoyed the lunch prepared and served by members and guests. With little ones like Leo Jordan, starting early to attend meetings, the future of Vasa is in good hands.

Submitted by: Marjorie Matetzsch
Travelers Lodge #750

CULTURE

Memories of Sylvia, The White Princess

Written by Caroline Lindgren

I was most often spoken of or referred to as the White Princess in those days of the early twenties; so named and remembered by the Indians in Nett Lake Village. I lived there until I was seven and was known as "Barto's little girl." I remained with them through the years until I was sixteen, calling Aunt Ida and Uncle Bob Barto my family although we were not related.

In the village where we dwelled among the Chippewa Indians, I spent many years of a very happy childhood. My experience with them will ever remain cherished, an integral part of my being. An un-estimated number of mental reveries emerged out of so long a sojourn amidst the culture of the Chippewa. The

very remembrance of Nett Lake itself will never depart. A part of memory is the surrounding Cook Camps which were used in those years following World War I by surveyors and loggers.

As children, my brother and I occasionally wandered out a few miles from the village to the cook's galley at Camp. I became a frequent visitor when we were encouraged to eat at the mess hall. It was this way I met Mr. Robert L. Barto, the Chief Surveyor. He and his wife lived in the compound. As they were childless, he recommended me to his wife as a companion. We took to each other immediately and, upon making inquiries, I was soon practically adopted. That they had come from the town of Ely, MN, where I

was brought might have had a cementing influence.

My own parents worked for the United States Government Agency for Indian Affairs in that period. Mother was nursing at Pelican Lake, thirty miles away at Orr, MN. During the incident of the Spanish flu epidemic of 1919, my father helped to bury the dead in Nett Lake Village, a full time job. Miracle upon miracle, other than a family of three already far gone, my mother never lost one patient in her stay at Pelican Lake. Her work called for crossing the big lake from the hotel in town through slush and snow to the reservation in a great deal of icy weather. There near the Canadian

Continued on page 32

Culture

Continued from previous page

border temperatures fell to fifty-six degrees below. Mother's success was a phenomenon. They had not been able to save anyone from this particular Spanish influenza. It took its toll everywhere then.

The Indian Agent, Fred Isham, was constable for the Village of Nett Lake. He was responsible for law and order and taking care of emergencies. During duck season he was particularly busy with accidental drownings due to the use of easily capsized canoes to shoot from. The agency had a well-educated representative in the person of Mr. Isham. From South Dakota, he had married a girl of the Sioux tribe there and brought his family of three children to live in Nett Lake. They became my friends in the latter years. Somewhat earlier, in 1918-1919, my brother and I attended the school for Indian children in the village. It was taught by a white woman.

The Reverend Frank Pequette was the only pastor in town and had the only Protestant church on a hill where the Indians were buried. In earlier times there had been a Mission built by the Padres. It still stands at the crossroads of town. Reverend Pequette took his duties seriously and was the perfect liaison between the Indians and the government. He was himself a French Indian from Marquette, MI. Once he actually ventured to St. Paul and took in a movie! He expressed himself loudly with a great deal of gusto and he was dressed with moccasins for comfort.

The mainstay food of the Indians was the brown rice growing in abundance near the shores around the entire lake, which was seven miles long by three miles wide. Maple sugar was garnered from a natural virgin grove of maple trees on Half-way Island, across from the Nett Lake Region. There were hickory and almond nuts in abundance for both men and squirrels. The Indian's life was also showered with plentiful fruit and berries and wild meat of elk and deer. Bear roamed what was then the reservation of the Chippewa. Moose came down to the river's mouth from the forest to the Homestead Lands.

Homestead Territory was designated across the lake from the village. It took a full day to walk out to Gheen, MN, the nearest post office, for staple goods and necessities. In those days cars were unheard of in that region. A man usually went on foot to purchase his butter and

grain, carrying it upon his back in a knapsack. When a postman was finally assigned to the Homesteader's Lot, he brought the goods in a wagon. The charge was fourteen dollars per hundred pounds to each and everyone. We used the Sears and Montgomery Wards catalog a lot in those days too. Many families from Sweden were settled in the Minnesota Homestead Territory then.

In many respects Minnesota is a lot like Sweden. Cranberries grow in her bogs much like the smaller Swedish lingonberries. We have a similarity in flowers too. Trailing arbutus can be seen in both places and profusely growing wild roses. A sweet scent pervades the forest. Then there is Mayflower and Lily-of-the-Valley, Daffodil and Buttercups. When natives of Sweden and Norway came to Minnesota and Canada they felt right at

home in the cold winters. Farmers found fields for their plows. Lumbermen rejoiced in the abundant woods.

We spent three months at a time each summer within the confines of those woods. In years that followed there were a joy to be remembered. Memorable moments of love and happiness beyond compare were in the lives of all who encountered the forest primeval. Luxurious evergreen firs and pines, glorious poplar and birch enhance one's memory. The spectacle of boughs hung with snow and icicles seen in childhood can never be replaced. Even the birds and beasts came back to the place of their birth. Memory takes you there and back again – a fabulous experience!

Submitted by: Mr. and Mrs. Peter Lindgren, Nordic Lodge #660, Whittier, CA

HAPPENINGS

Årets Svenskamerikan Anne-Charlotte Hanes Harvey hyllad



DM Einar Savolainen Grön, DL Norra Sverige Nr 19, DM Catherine Bringselius Nilsson, DL Södra Sverige Nr 20 och Årets Svenskamerikan Anne-Charlotte Hanes Harvey.

Solen sken och vattnet glittrade i sjön Daglösen i Filipstad, när Dramaprofessor Anne-Charlotte Hanes Harvey inför en förväntansfull publik fick mottaga utmärkelsen Årets Svenskamerikan.

De båda svenska Distriktsmästarna Einar Savolainen Grön, DL Norra Sverige Nr 19, och Catherine Bringselius Nilsson, DL Södra Sverige Nr 20, presenterade Årets Svenskamerikan på scenen i parken på Kanonudden i Filipstad och överräckte insignierna på utmärkelsen: diplom och "den gyllenen plaketten."

Hyllningen avslutades med blommor och applåder. Därefter följde uppvisning av Gundega Baletten, som hänförde publiken med precision, skicklighet och humor i sina dansnummer. Dansen avlöstes av militär prestation, när slaget mellan Monitor och Merrimac utspelades på sjön. Hur utgången skulle bli i detta Nord-Sydstatskrig visste vi redan, Nordstaternas Monitor var överlägsen tack vare värmlänningen John Erikssons innovativa konstruktion. John Erikssons minne hade tidigare på dagen högtidlighållits med att Årets Svenskamerikan Anne-Charlotte Hanes Harvey lade ner en krans vid hans mausoleum i Filipstad.

Vid kvällens bankett i Karlstad till Årets Svenskamerikans ära fick Anne-Charlotte Hanes Harvey mottaga de båda svenska distriktens gemensamma gåva, två ljusstakar i kristall från Orrefors med Ordens emblem ingraverat, och distrikt-slogernas respektive hedersstandar. Anne-Charlotte höll ett strålande tacktal. Hennes folkdräkt, som hon bar kvällen till ära, spelade en central roll. Den hade följt henne genom livet och vi fick nu på ett synnerligen charmigt sätt dela Anne-Charlottes minnesbilder kring sammanhang där klänningen figurerat.

Continued on next page

Happenings

Continued from page 32

Firandet av Årets Svenskamerikan fortsatte helgen efter på Minnesotadagen i Växjö. Växjö kommun bjöd på lunch efter svensk-amerikansk gudstjänst i Växjö Domkyrka.

Distriktsmästare Catherine Bringselius Nilsson höll tal till Årets Svenskamerikan på *Utvandrarnas Hus* i Växjö. Catherine inledde sitt tal med att knyta samman August Strindberg och Los Angeles. Kopplingen finns i det Strindbergsällskap, som etablerats i Los Angeles, och där Årets Svenskamerikan Anne-Charlotte Hanes Harvey sitter i dess styrelse.

Catherine Bringselius Nilsson läste upp motiveringen för att tilldela Anne-Charlotte Hanes Harvey utmärkelsen Årets Svenskamerikan 2009. Motiveringen lyder:

Anne-Charlotte Hanes Harvey har konstnärligt och vetenskapligt studerat, främjat och bevarat svenskamerikanska kulturella uttrycksformer, alltifrån svenska emigranternas nöjesliv i USA till nutida svensk kultur. Hennes enastående kulturgärning är av bestående värde för framtiden.

Catherine Bringselius Nilsson avslutade sitt tal med att uppmana Anne-Charlotte Hanes Harvey att avtäckta tavlan med namnen på alla Årets Svenskamerikaner, kompletterad med hennes eget namn ingraverat i kopparplåt.

Det var 50:e gången som Vasa Orden av Amerika delade ut utmärkelsen Årets Svenskamerikan.

Insänt av: Catherine Bringselius Nilsson, DM

Årets Svenska Kvinna 2009

Vid *SWEA Internationals Världsmöte* och 30-års jubileum i Washington DC utnämndes Agneta Nilsson, SWEAs grundare, till Heders-ÅSKA (Årets Svenska Kvinna).

Utmärkelsen är SWEAs mest prestigefyllda erkännande, som ges till en svensk kvinna som anses ha exceptionell förmåga och mycket goda förutsättningar att kunna sprida svensk goodwill och kännedom om Sverige i världen.

Motiveringen var följande:

SWEAs styrelse har enats om en kandidat till utmärkelsen Årets Svenska Kvinna. En person som i sin Sverigefrämjande verksamhet i utlandet

värvat över 8.000 ambassadörer för vårt land, satt Sverige på kartan på mer än 70 platser i 34 länder världen över. En person som förverkligat sin vision och under 30 år lagt ned hela sin själ och nog ännu mer av sin energi på att forma och utveckla vår fantastiska organisation. Och vid sidan av detta helt unika livsverk har hon på många andra områden fört Sveriges fana högt i världen.

Denna titel förärdades hon vid 30-årsjubilet där hon tackades och blev utnämnd till "alla Sweors HedersÅSKA."

Submitted by: Agneta Nilsson



Agneta Nilsson

Setterdahl Receives Award for Efforts in Translating Early Swedish Letters

BY MARY DAVIDSAVER

For the Galva News

Lilly Setterdahl, a prolific author living in East Moline, IL, received the Olof Isaksson Prize last month in a brief ceremony during the Bishop Hill Midsommar Music Festival.

The award recognizes her work along with that of her late husband, Lennart, in translating letters written by the Swedish settlers of the Bishop Hill and Galva area.

Her first visit to Bishop Hill came in 1970 while on a trip from Ohio to gather background information on the colony and the people who wrote the letters she was translating.

The research paid off in a defining moment when she came across the name of Beata Pehrsson, the mother of Olof Krans. The family arrived in 1850 when Olof was 12 years old.

"I immediately recognized it as mentioned many times in the letters written by Eric Olsson, who was her husband," Setterdahl stated. "Now, my work of translating became more interesting to me."

Setterdahl described the letters of Eric Olsson as very detailed and descriptive. Quotes from these letters are featured in many of the displays in the Steeple Building museum in Bishop Hill.

"I would say that he described in word what his son later described in pictures," she observed.

Moving to East Moline in 1971 provided Setterdahl easier access to Bishop Hill and colony records. The Setterdahls worked closely with Edla Warner, the great-granddaughter of colony founder Eric Jansson, in an effort to microfilm many of the old documents.

"I enjoyed talking with Edla and hearing her interpretation of the colony



Mike Wendel of the Bishop Hill Heritage Association presents Lilly Setterdahl with the Olof Isaksson Prize for her extensive efforts in translating letters by early Swedish settlers of Bishop Hill, helping local residents connect with their ancestors.

history," Setterdahl recalled, adding that Warner always defended Jansson.

The microfilm project was cut short, but that merely sent the Setterdahls out looking for other sources of colony information.

"That's how the Emmelyne Hedstrom papers about the colony were preserved," she said, "among them the very important membership book."

When news of this find reached Sweden it became possible to have much of this material published in a regional historical magazine.

Preserving the history of Bishop Hill and the heritage of Swedish emigrants are the main goals of the Bishop Hill

Continued on page 34

Happenings

Continued from previous page

Sallskapet (Society) of Biskopskulla, Sweden. It's also the prime criteria for their selection of the Olov Isaksson Prize honoree.

Isaksson, the late director of the Museum of National Antiquities in Stockholm, was an early, strong supporter of Bishop Hill preservation. He was

instrumental in sending the Krans paintings to Sweden for restoration.

Setterdahl remembered meeting Isaksson for the first time in 1972 in Bishop Hill. Their paths crossed many more times over the years, including once when she and her husband acted as guides for a family trip to Swedesburg, IA.

Mike Wendel of the Bishop Hill Heritage Association presented the framed award to Setterdahl, who

humorously said she was happy to receive the award here rather than in Sweden.

However, it was fitting for her to be honored here considering her large body of nonfiction work about colony descendants and Swedish settlement of this area. It will always keep her tied to Bishop Hill and Galva.

Submitted by: Lilly Setterdahl
Photo by: Mary Davidsaver

'Junk' Bonds: U.S. Production of Swedish Band Brainpool's *JUNK: A Rock Opera* Bridges International Arts Scene

LOS ANGELES, CA (March 2, 2009) - Savvy investors don't risk their money on junk bonds. But in the case of *JUNK: A Rock Opera*—the U.S. theatrical production based on the music of Sweden's gold record band Brainpool—the term 'junk bonds' takes on a whole new sensibility.

When *JUNK: A Rock Opera* opened at the Steve Allen Theater in May 2007, the show's energetic, yet biting commentary on consumerism and addiction to fame—all set to Brainpool's catchy rock score—highlighted the increasing connection between modern Swedish and American cultures.

"*JUNK* is the first piece of musical theatre to capture in story, sound, and character the zeitgeist of the 21st century," says director Shakina Nayfack, who along with producer Joseph Yoshitomi owns Epic Megalopolis Productions, the owners of the theatrical rights to the rock opera. "It's part social satire, part love story, and part existential allegory, answering to our times with a fresh call for rock and revolution."

Prior to the theatrical opening of *JUNK* in Los Angeles, the work had only been performed in concert once, in partnership with Sweden's Malmö Symphonic Orchestra, for a crowd of 10,000 fans.

Now, after 32 performances in Los Angeles—many to sold-out crowds—Epic Megalopolis wants to bring the theatrical production of *JUNK* to Swedish audiences.

"Brainpool is a household name in Sweden," says Yoshitomi. "Their televised *JUNK* concert delayed the nightly news. We are taking progressive steps to develop the staged material for a larger venue."

Interest from several U.S. theater companies, many of which are portals to Broadway, has provided further impetus for an international production.

"There has never been a theatrical performance of *JUNK* in Sweden," says Justin Winokur, Brainpool's manager. "We're looking for the right group of investors to work with us and help make *JUNK* a bridge between continents and cultures."

"A successful run in Sweden might also prove to be a lucrative link to an even larger-scale Broadway production in the future," adds Winokur.

"While the work is compelling and tremendously new, it has already developed a pedigree of success shown in its previous incarnation," says Laurence Braun, who partially funded the Los Angeles production. "I was looking for an edgy show that still appeals to a mass audience...*JUNK* is it."

Futuristic in setting, *JUNK* reflects the intellectual anxiety of the current age while offering sharp commentary about the direction of global consumer society.

"The interest we have received from foundations and individuals in the U.S. and in Sweden, and the palpable excitement of the cast and musicians working with Brainpool's material makes me think we're developing work that strikes a chord with a wide range of the population," says producer Joseph Yoshitomi.

***JUNK: A Rock Opera* — Synopsis:**

The planet is covered in garbage and on the verge of environmental collapse. The last great city—and final stronghold for humanity—is owned by Junk incorporated, which controls almost every aspect of its inhabitants' lives.

Anna, a Junk Inc. employee, dreams of something more: An escape from the drudgery of corporate-controlled life, a chance at fame and romance and the opportunity to break free from socially constructed bonds and be herself.

But in a world controlled by greed and

power, where does "opportunity" truly lie? Should Anna succumb to the powerful whims of The Man to get what she wants—a shot to sing at the world's last rock club—or should she reject all that Junk Inc. has to offer and run the risk of losing it all?

Facing an epic choice between opportunity and ideals, Anna risks sacrificing what she holds most dear for a chance to show the world her true colors.

A social satire set to a full rock score and live band, *JUNK* spins a story of tragic love and naïve pride that is both intensely personal and socially resonant.

Quick facts about Brainpool and *JUNK*:

- *JUNK: A Rock Opera* ran for nine weeks for a total 32 performances in Los Angeles – many to sold-out crowds.
- The May 2007 theatrical production of *JUNK* received a "GO!" review in the LA Weekly.
- In 2007 Warner Brothers licensed Brainpool's single "Junk" for use in their prime time TV show "One Tree Hill".
- Brainpool's lead singer/producer Christoffer Lundquist has produced some of the most successful Swedish records ever, including albums by Per Gessle, Gyllene Tider, and Ulf Lundell. Albums he's produced have sold over 1,000,000 units.
- Brainpool was a finalist in the 2005 International Songwriting Competition for their song "Junk".

Learn more about *JUNK: A Rock Opera* online at:

<http://www.junkrockopera.com>.

**Submitted by: Justin Winokur, JWC Artist Group/
Epic Megalopolis Productions
justin@jwcartistgroup.com
Golden Valley Lodge #616**

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

ARIZONA

CHARLOTTE ADELIN ONSTINE passed away on July 13, 2009, in Tucson, AZ, at the age of 93. She was a member of Tucson Lodge #691. She was born in Moorehead, MN, on July 6, 1916, and joined Tucson Lodge #691 on January 15, 2000. She is survived by 2 sons, 3 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

CALIFORNIA

AINA ALICE BRANNVALL passed away on October 16, 2007, at the age of 99, in Valencia, CA. She was a member of Mayflower Lodge #445. She was born in Korbolombolo, Sweden, on May 17, 1908, and joined Mayflower Lodge #445 on September 15, 1983. She received her Life Membership in 2004.

JOHN O. JOHNSON passed away on April 6, 2009, at the age of 92, in Cerritos, CA. He joined Mayflower Lodge #445 on December 3, 1964. John received his Life Membership in 1987, 25-year pin in 1990, and 40-year pin in 2005.

CONNECTICUT

DR. GEORGE JACOBSON, PH.D., died on February 10, 2009. Dr. Jacobson was the chair and guiding spirit of the Connecticut District #1 committee which brought the Viking replica ship, Islendir, to New Haven, CT, in 2000 in celebration of the 1000th anniversary of Leif Erikson's voyage to North America and the group tour of Iceland the following year by many members of that committee and other Vasa members. Dr. Jacobson was a noted musician both locally and nationally as he held the title of U.S. champion baritone horn in addition to his role as conductor of the Southern Connecticut State University Orchestra, as well as the Symphonic Pops and Community Orchestras at SCSU. He is survived by his wife, Anne B. Dryer, two sons Karl and Leif, a daughter Kristin and a number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. George's many contributions to Vasa will be long-remembered by all.

ANNA A. JOHNSON of Branford, CT, died on June 6, 2009. A 50-year member of Diana Birger Jarl Lodge #3, the Eastern Star Georgia Chapter #48 and a lifetime member of Tabor Lutheran Church in Branford, CT. Anna is survived by her sister Ruth, several nieces and nephews and 10 grand-nieces and nephews. She will be fondly remembered and missed.

KERSTIN LINDQUIST, formerly of New Haven, CT, passed away January 24, 2009, one day short of her 85th birthday. She served for 40 years as Financial Secretary of Connecticut District #1 VOA, and as Secretary of the Swedish Aid Society for 30 years. She is survived by her son Erik Bjorn Lindquist and long-time friends Sonia and Walter Krummrey. Kerstin is remembered fondly by her many friends in Diana Birger Jarl Lodge #3 and the Swedish community of Greater New Haven and Connecticut.

ILLINOIS

ANNETTA L. COLLMAN, 103, born September 5, 1905, died March 25, 2009, in St. Charles, IL. She was a 57-year member of Viljan Lodge #349, having joined March 27, 1952. She was active in the community and lived in her own home up until several weeks before she died. She is survived by her step-family as well as nieces and nephews.

MINNESOTA

RUSSELL G. PETERSON passed away June 18, 2009. He was born in Minneapolis, MN, on November 27, 1921. He joined Stenbock Lodge #138, Minneapolis, MN, on March 5, 1954. He is survived by his wife Joyce, a daughter, 3 grandchildren and two great-grandsons.

L. ERNESTINE SIME passed away April 27, 2009. She was born in Minneapolis, MN, on April 26, 1930, and joined Stenbock Lodge #138 on November 10, 2005. She is survived by daughter, Camille Sime-Schell (Wade) and grandchildren Vivian and Jackson.

PENNSYLVANIA

GEORGE J. EDBERG-OLSON, 84, died June 29, 2009, at the Artman Lutheran Home in Ambler, PA. He was born October 3, 1924, in Philadelphia, PA. He was Professor Emeritus of Temple University. He was a valued member of Oscars Borg Lodge #172, where his cousins, May Odell and Florence Evans, are members. He is survived also by a sister and niece.

TEXAS

MAURICE ANDERSON passed away July 9, 2009, at the age of 73. He was a Charter Member of Travelers Lodge #758. Maurice and wife Gayle (who survives him) loved Sweden and were active members in Vasa, Elgin Swedish Association and other Swedish organizations in the Elgin, TX, area. Maurice was very proud of his heritage and will be greatly missed.

HILDEGARD K. HALL passed away April 27, 2009, in Round Rock, TX, at the age of 81. She was born December 3, 1927, in Kenedy, TX. She was a Charter Member of Carl Widen Lodge #743 in Austin, TX, joining February 12, 1989. She is survived by daughter Shari Jo, 1 granddaughter and 2 grandsons.

WASHINGTON

DONALD B. BERGSTEDT passed away March 15, 2009, at the age of 76. He was past president of Solidaritet Lodge #396. He is survived by his wife Phyllis, daughters Dina and Dianne, 4 grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. He died at the family farm where he was born in Sedro-Woolley, WA.

MARIE D. FOGES passed away August 9, 2009. She was 89 years old. She was a member of Svea Lodge #469, Longview, WA. Marie enjoyed spending time with family and friends, reading, traveling, camping, cooking and baking, crocheting and knitting, watching baseball on television, working crossword puzzles and volunteering with community organizations. She is survived by her husband John Foges (also a member of Svea Lodge #469), a son, brother, 4 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. Marie was preceded in death by a daughter.

ERNEST J. PETERSON passed away April 7, 2009, at the age of 87. He is survived by his wife Beatrice, 2 sons and 3 daughters and their spouses, 11 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

RUTH EVELYN VAUGHN passed away February 20, 2009, at the age of 88. She enjoyed serving at Solidaritet Lodge #396's pancake breakfasts. She is survived by son George, daughter Linnea, granddaughter Michelle, and many nieces and nephews.

WISCONSIN

ELSIE JORGENSEN of Milwaukee, WI, passed away on June 1, 2009, at the age of 101. She was born in Sweden in 1908. She was preceded in death by her husband Herman and sons Arnold and Kenneth, and grandson Steve Mole. Beloved mother of Herman (Doreen) and Karen (Thomas) Mole, many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and other relatives and friends. She will be missed by the members of Linde Lodge #492 as she was a member since 1990.

EUNICE R. TROYER (NEE ANDERSON) of South Milwaukee, WI, passed away on August 17, 2009, at the age of 93. Preceded in death by her husband of 58 years, Arvid C. Troyer. Loving mother of Barbara (Rick) Grobschmidt, Patti Kunkel and Ron Troyer. Leaving behind grandchildren, great-grand child, and family and friends. Eunice taught kindergarten and Sunday School for many years. She was a dedicated Linde Lodge #492 member for 40 years, and will be missed by us all.

CANADA

FREDRIK AHLSSON, born in Linköping, Southern Sweden, on February 7, 1925, passed away on August 8, 2009, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. He was initiated into Lodge Strindberg #259 on February 17, 2002. Fredrik was very proud of his Swedish heritage.

JOHN HOLMFRID BERGSTROM was born in northern Sweden, June 4, 1917, and passed away in Edmonton, AB, Canada, on March 27, 2009. He joined Skandia Lodge #549, Edmonton, AB, on January 1, 1963, picking up his service from his previous membership from Meeting Creek, AB, he had been presented his 60-year Cultural Award. He immigrated to Canada with family members and settled in Meeting Creek. His grandfather, Axel, died prematurely and John at 16 tried to help his grandmother to lead the family to Buck Creek, AB. During his time in Wetaskiwin he operated a diner associated with the bus terminal. This is where he met Sonja Mary Hanson who worked as a waitress. They were married and moved to Edmonton in the early 50s. Four children were born - Linda, twins David and Donald, and Richard-Grant. During this time John worked at different jobs, often related to sales and finally centered on real estate. His wife Sonja pursued a teaching career. For many years both John and Sonja attended Augustana Lutheran Church. It was Sonja who always made certain that the coffee was hot and good pastries were laid out on the table for those attending Julotta Service on Christmas mornings. He is survived by his 4 children, 5 grandchildren and 2 sisters.

GERTRUDE ALFREDA HOLMGREN (NEE SKONBERG-DUXBURY) was born November 27, 1917, and joined Skandia Lodge #549, Edmonton, AB, on October 9, 1934. She passed away March 25, 2009, at the age of 91. She is survived by 3 daughters - Virginia Fawcett, Carol McRae, and Audrey Eliasson, 8 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great-grandchildren. Gertrude was predeceased by her husbands, Bror Holmgren and Roy Duxbury, 2 sisters, Annie Melander and Audrey Todd, one sister-in-law, Audrey Todd, one brother-in-law, Sig Melander and a great-grandson, Ian McRae. Gertrude was a great supporter of the Children's Club "Förgät Mig Ej" #73 and the Camp week. She received much satisfaction with the Reading Aids of Edmonton using the Laubach system, one on one, where she could see her students progress and being successful. It gave her joy to tell of their advancement learning English which helped these persons become even better citizens. She was the first Edmontonian to be confirmed at the First Swedish Lutheran Church, now called Augustana Lutheran Church. She served as President of Vasa Pioneers #12 (Activity Group) for 9 years, 1987-1995 inclusive. During this time she quite often entertained the group at luncheons or coffee parties in her home.

CLIFFORD EVALD NYSTROM passed away March 16, 2009. He was born in Falun, Alberta, Canada, on November 16, 1924, and joined Skandia Lodge #549, Edmonton, AB, on April 3, 1989. He is survived by his sister Muriel Domzy, brother Gunnar, children Conrad, Desiree, Gail, Kelly, Tammie, numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his parents, Nick and Göta Nystrom, son Carey, daughter Cindy and an infant brother, Lawrence. Clifford served in the Royal Canadian Air Force overseas and the Infantry PPCLI in Canada. He was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion, Kingsway Branch #175, Edmonton, and also a member of the Salvation Army.

MEMORIAL NOTICES

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

Välj.

Go to flysas.com/us for great deals to Scandinavia and Finland.



No one flies to Scandinavia more often than we do. Check out all our destinations and timetables at www.flysas.com. By the way, "Välj" means **choose** in Swedish. As in, sometimes you need the highest comfort level, other times a low price, and many times both. That's why SAS offers three levels of comfort: **Business, Economy Extra**, our premium economy class and **Economy** – it's your choice!

Copenhagen Stockholm Oslo Helsinki Gothenburg Stavanger

flysas.com/us *Check out all our destinations and timetables at www.flysas.com



Scandinavian Airlines

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER 

Barnklubben Elsa Rix #1 VOA Children's Club

Presents

Lucia & Folk Dance Double CD, Lucia Songbook and Folk Dance Instruction Book

Listen to the sweetness of the children's voices as you prepare for the coming Christmas season. Close your eyes and you'll imagine Lucia floating into the room surrounded by her maidens, star boys, bakers and tomtes.

During and after Christmas you'll be tapping your feet to the lively accordion and fiddle music on the folk dance CD as you imagine dancers in Swedish folk costumes gliding across the dance floor, or dancing around the maypole or Christmas tree.

You can use these CDs to put on your own folk dance exhibitions and Lucia pageants since they also include instrumental only tracks. Our Lucia songbook includes English and Swedish versions of the songs and narrations.

Our Folk Dance Instruction Book has detailed instructions for each of the dances on our CD as well as instruction and illustration pages to help you master each step, hold and position for the dances.

Get your copy of this double CD, Lucia instruction booklet and Folk Dance Instruction Book for only \$30 (which includes shipping and handling). If you already have the CDs and Lucia Booklet and wish to purchase the Folk Dance Instruction Book only, the price is \$12 (which includes shipping and handling). Make checks payable to "Barnklubben Elsa Rix #1" and include your mailing address with a contact phone number or email address to:

Barnklubben Elsa Rix #1
c/o Elaine Lindquist McGrath
252 Wellington Road S, Garden City, NY 11530

Information: call Elaine at (516) 565-2091 or visit www.skandjam.com/PAGES/elsarix.htm

