



# THE VASA STAR

## VASASTJÄRNAN

SUMMER 2013  
Publication of *The Vasa Order of America*



Drott Lodge #168 celebrated 2013 ABBA Palooza in Potomac, MD with (l to r) Ashley Mullinax and Julie Olson, Chair of the lodge (see page 9 for the rest of the cast).

## THE GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE



DEAR VASA BROTHERS AND SISTERS,  
This is the first Vasa Star incorporated into an issue of the Nordstjernen. The GL Board chose to accept the invitation to place our Vasa Star publication into the *Nordstjernen* quarterly as a benefit to readers of both. It is encouraging for all of us to see that Swedish culture is celebrated across the US not only by Vasa members. As you read the *Nordstjernen* you will learn about current events

in Sweden and in Swedish American society. Please share these as program ideas in your own Vasa cultural programs throughout the coming year.

We are still in the process of tabulating the results of the 2013 annual Stamp Fundraiser in support of the Grand Lodge Education Program. If you haven't yet made that important donation you may still mail it to our Grand Secretary, Joan Graham. I'm encouraged by the health of our Scholarship Program and know many young students will receive Vasa Order of America Scholarships in the future.

The Sami exhibit held during the month of June at the Vasa National Archives was a large undertaking for our Archivist, Victoria Almgren, our Midwest Archives' Board members and many dedicated volunteers. The exhibit was well attended and gave the Archives an opportunity to be seen as a hub of Swedish culture for those who visit Bishop Hill as well as a genealogy center for our members and visitors.

This year's Heritage Fundraiser is underway in support of the operations of the Archives. The future of the Archives... / p4

## Bertha E. Kalm, Benefactor of our Order

We were only a week into this year when I got a call from Gunilla Thelin, one of my predecessors as chairperson of our Lodge. Acting as executor of the Bertha E. Kalm estate she was about to distribute four checks for a total of one million dollars to benefit



Swedish-American institutions. The size of the bequest came as a surprise to me even though I knew that Ms. Kalm was a generous person and that our Lodge (as well as our District Lodge, the Grand Lodge and a few other parties) was a beneficiary of her trust. Ms. Kalm, I soon learned, was proud of her Swedish heritage and had told Ms. Thelin and another of her friends, Ingela Sörens-son, that she wished to honor her ancestors by giving half of her estate to organizations within the Swedish-American community; the other half she had reserved for her Alma Mater, San Jose State University in California. The funds going to the Vasa Lodges were earmarked for education. According to the trust document, the St. Erik's Church

in San Pedro (a California branch of the Church of Sweden) was bequeathed the same amount as each of the three Vasa Lodges.

Unfortunately, I didn't have the opportunity to meet Ms. Kalm - she never applied for membership in the Vasa Order and never

attended any meetings at our lodge, the Golden Valley Lodge (GVL) in Van Nuys, California. On several occasions, however, the GVL scholarship program received donations of \$1,000 from a lady who wished to be anonymous. It was only after the death of Ms. Kalm on April 11, 2012 that the name of our benefactor was revealed. Her friends, members of the GVL, have provided me with the following data about her interesting and adventurous life.

Bertha Kalm was born in Riverside, California on October 9, 1914. Her father, Charles Kalm, was an immigrant from Sweden who arrived to New York in 1893 and later settled in California where he became an American citizen in 1901... / p4

### The End of Mass Emigration

When Professor Ulf Beijbom wrote *Utvandran och den stora depressionen (1850-1930)* a gap of knowledge in immigration history was filled with important information on that period and the first years of the following decade. Review / p15

### District Lodge CT #1

After a few months of planning members, friends and families of CTDL#1 and MADL#2 boarded a bus in North Haven, CT. We all had high expectations as we headed Delaware to celebrate 375 years of the New Sweden Colony. / p8

### District Lodge Golden Gate #12

The 98th Annual District Convention was jointly hosted by Lindbergh Lodge #494 and Svea Lodge #348 in Milpitas, CA on April 26-28, 2013. Grand Master Bill Lundquist was an honored guest. / p8

### Grand Lodge Board Meeting

The Grand Lodge Executive Board meeting was held on April 23-25, 2013 in Milpitas, California, during the week prior to the Golden Gate District No. 12 annual convention. All board members were present, including new members. / p5

# EDITOR'S MESSAGE



BY ANNELIE LINDBERG

I hope this issue of Vasa Star brings both a surprise and big smile to your faces! Your GL Board has worked hard to launch a collaborative effort with Nordstjernan, which will add to your reading enjoyment and offer current events and timely articles about Sweden for both your personal knowledge and to enrich the cultural portion of your lodge meetings. This also means that many more

readers will now be aware of the Vasa Order of America, and you may be receiving inquiries about your lodge meetings and hopefully, some new members!

Our web site, [www.vasaorder.com](http://www.vasaorder.com) has all the information to locate local lodges in the USA, Canada, and Sweden. Welcome!

What an amazing gift we received from philanthropist, Bertha Kalm. Please read the entire article on p. 1 and reflect on the heart-felt impact Vasa has on people. How proud are we of this year's scholarship winners on p. 5. Be sure to encourage the youth in your lodges to apply for the 2014 contest, details are on p. 7.

Our next issue deadline is upon us, October 1. Please send your Christmas Greetings with a check from your lodge and district so they may be included in our next issue. We all hope that you will enjoy our new look and free issue of Nordstjernan.

## ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS



168 Drott Lodge celebrates another year with another Great Meatball Cook-Off and ABBA Palooza. / p9



Representative Gordon Westergren and Member Sinikka Rionilla at the District 8 Convention held in Michigan City. / p6

### Deadlines for The Vasa Star

Fall Deadline » **October 1**  
 Winter Deadline » **December 25**  
 Spring Deadline » **March 15**

- Picture and article, 200 words or less.
- For Letters to the Editor column, 150 words or less.
- Please send pictures of good quality in order for them to reproduce well in The Vasa Star. Electronically submitted photos should be scanned in JPEG format at a resolution of 300 dpi.
- For submitted lodge articles, please add city and state. Thanks!

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

### Delivering Audio, Visual Materials

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Online:

Access the top navigation item — "Materials" — at [www.vasaorder.com](http://www.vasaorder.com) for the listings of audio and 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.

*en eller ett?*

Svenska Språkhörnan — The Swedish Language corner. Siv Swan-Piersson explains the difference and when to use either. / p14

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## Christmas Greetings

Christmas Greetings from lodges and individuals are due **NO LATER THAN October 1st.**

Price \$20 per column inch.

Copy must be emailed or type written and mailed with check to:

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[EditorVasaStar@yahoo.com](mailto:EditorVasaStar@yahoo.com)

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# ARCHIVES NEWS



BY VIKTORIA ALMGREN

THE FALL SEASON WITH ITS WONDERFUL COLORS WILL SOON BE HERE. The evenings will darken, and we'll want to light candles and curl up on the sofa with a good book or movie.

The humming of the air conditioner will be replaced by the winds of autumn.

At this time last year, we planned for the Sami exhibit. We had hoped that it would draw many more visitors, but those who came appreciated the displays and our work. I want to thank all the wonderful people who helped us out, no one named, none forgotten. You all know what a good job you did, so once again, a heartfelt thank you. I would also like to thank Linda and Crystal, the owners of the Filling Station (a restaurant here in Bishop Hill) for donating food several times and catering meals when we hosted meetings on the lower level of the archives. The words, "can't do" are not in their vocabulary. They are an asset to our community and all of us who work here.

To continue on the theme of indigenous people, we're considering an exhibit about American Indians or the Alaska Eskimos for next year. We would appreciate suggestions about what you think would be of interest to our visitors. All ideas are welcome.

On behalf of the Archives, I would like

to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for gifts and money, both of which are always welcome. Among the gifts we have received is a new vacuum cleaner from Nobel Lodge in Moline. (It does such a good job that it's almost fun to vacuum!) We have received a wonderful book from the Swedish lodge Småland No. 618 about my hometown Jönköping, featuring its match factory and the Solstickan matches. (The lodge meets in the Odd Fellows building in Jönköping.) Gunnar Mossberg sent us beautiful tin cups, some of which are on display, while others were inaugurated at a pleasant dinner in the Archives' apartment.

The number of visitors to the Archives has increased significantly. Our events have made them aware of what the Vasa Order stands for and what we have to offer. During the Sami exhibit, we had the honor of welcoming Swedish governors from Northern Sweden and representatives for Swedish tourism (more than 20 people). Hopefully, they will promote our activities in their districts. We have had many other visitors from Sweden. Here in Bishop Hill we appreciate that the Swedes find their way to our quaint little village.

We encourage everyone who plans to visit our archives to make an appointment. We are closed on Mondays. Tuesday-Saturday, we are open 10:00 to 4:00, and on Sundays 11:00 to 3:00. There may be exceptions as we have only person on the staff.

So please contact us first: Viktoria Almgren, archivist / Phone 309-927-3898 / Email: viktorias.vasaarchives@gmail.com.



Distinguished visit from Sweden  
Fint besök från Sverige

SNART ANLÄNDER HÖSTEN MED SINA VACKRA FÄRGER, kvällarna blir allt kortare och det känns lite mysigt att tända levande ljus på bordet, kanske kura ner sig i soffan med en bra bok eller en film, ljudet av AC:n tystnar och kvar finns suset av höst blåsten i träderna. Vid denna tid förra året arbetade vi med planering inför Same utställningen, Vi hade naturligtvis hoppas på betydligt mera besökare, men de som kom uppskattade vår utställning och vårt arbete. Jag vill tacka alla underbara människor som ställt upp och hjälp till, ingen nämnd ej heller någon glömd! Alla Ni som arbetat vet vilket enastående arbete Ni gjorde! Så än en gång ett STORT TACK!

Jag vill också framföra ett stort tack till vår lokala restaurang The Fillingstation "tjejerna Linda och Crystal" som har donerat mat vid olika tillfällen och ombesörjt Catering till Arkivet när vi haft möte i vår lokal på nedre plan, det finns inget ord i deras ordlista som heter "det går inte att fixa" dom är underbara

för vår by och alla som arbetar här.

Inför nästa år planeras en utställningen om Indianer och kanske även om Alaska Eskimåerna, kan säkert bli en trevlig uppföljare efter Samerna. Om någon har ideer ang vad och vilka tema vi ska ta upp på Arkivet för att visa för våra besökare, skriv gärna till oss, alla ideer är välkomna!

Jag vill också passa på att från Arkivet vägnar tacka för gåvor, pengar mm som alltid kommer väl till pass, bl.a fick en ny dammsugare från Nobel loge i Molin (Det är "nästan" kul att dammsuga när man ser att det blir rent!) Det har också anlänt gåvor från Sverige, en underbar vacker bok om min gamla hemstad Jönköping gällande tändsticks tillverkning "Solstickan" gåvan kom från Logen Småland Nr 618 (logen är belägen i Odd Fellow huset i Jönköping Sverige) Vi fick även underbart vackra tenn glas som Gunnar Mossberg skickade till oss, en del av dom är uppställda för att beskådas, och några av dom, invigde vi i Arkivets lägenhet vid en trevlig middag.

Antalet besökare till Arkivet har ökat betydligt, olika event har gjort att folk har fått "upp ögonen" för vad Vasa står för, och vad Vi har att erbjuda. Vid Same utställningen hade vi äran att få besök av olika Landshövdingar samt från Turistnäringsen från Norra delen av Sverige, förhoppningsvis ger dom oss en bra reklam i deras del av Landet. Det har varit många besök från Sverige denna vår och Sommar, Vi här i Bishop Hill uppskattar att Svenskarna hittar vägen till vår lilla trevliga by!

The colorful logo reads

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## Bertha E. Kalm, Benefactor of our Order

(continued from the Front Page) Bertha's mother, Amanda, was born in Carthage, Missouri, but moved to California with her parents in 1888 when she was a 12-year old child. Bertha's maternal grandparents, the Sodergrens, had left Sweden in the late 1860s. Following Mr. Sodergren's passing in 1907, and soon after marrying Bertha's mother, it is likely that Charles Kalm bought the family's citrus ranch in Colton (near San Bernardino in California). Bertha grew up on the ranch together with a half-brother and a half-sister.

After graduating from high school, Bertha attended San Bernardino Junior College within a few miles of the family ranch. In 1933 she abandoned the comforts of home and moved 400 miles north where she transferred to San Jose State College (today's SJSU). Here Ms. Kalm received her Bachelor of Arts degree and started to work as a teacher at an elementary school located about 50 miles south of San Jose. The following year her father died of a stroke. To be near her mother at their time of sorrow, she went back home to Colton. After receiving her teaching credentials from USC in 1939 she was employed as a business teacher at Colton High School.

Ms. Kalm moved to Los Angeles during the time when the entire country was busy gearing up for WWII. Initially she worked as a secretary but in the fall of 1942 she started her 30-year career as a business teacher and counselor in the LA school system. Ten years later she took sabbatical leave to travel in Europe with her mother and half-sister. They reserved a stateroom with three beds on the luxurious ocean liner SS America and departed for Bremerhaven (Germany) on June 20, 1952. The return to New York was booked on the same ship sailing from Southampton (England) on September 11. Bertha rented (or purchased) a car in Europe and toured many countries, including Sweden where she researched genealogical archives and took notes on her family history. Before returning to

the U.S. she and her travel companions went on a cruise that included stops in Greece, Lebanon, Israel and Egypt as well as excursions to places of interest in the region. It was probably this trip that wetted Bertha's appetite for extensive world travel later in life.

In a personal history document Ms. Kalm described herself (at age 41) as a single woman of slight build (height 5'5" and weight 120 lbs) with blue eyes, brown hair and fair complexion. This document was probably prepared when she applied for a U.S. government job in Washington D.C. in 1956. One of her friends told me that Bertha wrote frequent letters to her 80-year old mother in Los Angeles during the two years she worked for the government. At that time her mother resided in a duplex (or possibly an apartment building) that Bertha had acquired before moving to the nation's capital. Many of the letters concerned rent collection from her tenants.

Ms. Kalm became an accomplished world traveler after her retirement in 1972. In an article published in Who's Who her occupation was listed as business educator and adventurer; now we should add philanthropist. The funds she bequeathed to Vasa are needed and will benefit our Order in a multitude of ways. From experience I know that scholarship programs play an important role in recruiting new and young members. At my own Lodge we have placed the money in a separate fund; any future scholarship awards coming from this fund will be named after Bertha E. Kalm. The corresponding program at the Pacific Southwest District Lodge will be augmented this year and more so in coming years. Furthermore, and perhaps even more important, it has now become possible to restore the Grand Lodge scholarship program to its former grandeur.

SUBMITTED BY BERTIL A. WINTHER  
PAST CHAIRMAN, GOLDEN VALLEY  
LODGE 616  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER, DISTRICT #15

## Letters to the Editor

DEAR VASA STAR,  
We read with interest the article in the latest Vasa Star by Jan Rygert from Nordic Lodge No 708. It brought back memories when we were honored to be part of the 350th anniversary celebration in 1988.

Richard was a member of the GL board and that year's board meeting was planned to coincide with the many celebrations.

The event at Fort Christina was awesome with the Royal couple attending.

Across the river in southern New Jersey, a Swedish Homestead had been established close to the town of Bridgeton. While waiting for the royal entourage to open the historic homestead we were treated to music performed by a Swedish military band.

After a long ride with lines of cars and buses escorted by New Jersey's finest we arrived in Trenton. Due to some delays, two of the GL members and their spouses ended up touring the museum with the VIP's. We were also able to secure first row viewing of the speeches and presentations. Unfortunately the other board members were not as lucky.

Next destination was New York. We went in a large van but the Royal couple boarded a Swedish naval vessel somewhere from the Jersey coast and arrived on the east side of Manhattan. There were Swedish flags and blue and yellow banners everywhere. Even the tugboats had dyed their water sprays in blue and yellow. The program with speeches, presentations and music were enjoyed by all.

We will remember this day forever and feel fortunate for having had this chance while serving in the Vasa Order.

IN TRUTH AND UNITY  
RICHARD AND LILLEMOR HORNGREN  
MEMBERS OF LINDE LODGE NO 492, WI

DEAR VASA STAR,  
The latest Vasa Star invited readers to switch to an electronic version saving printing and postage expenses and helping the environment. I have one concern. The notice indicated that Vasa Star could be read at [www.vasaorder.com](http://www.vasaorder.com). This would seem to make it the reader's responsibility to anticipate when a new issue is available.

As an alternative, I suggest you invite members to submit their e-mail addresses so that Vasa Star can be delivered as an e-

mail attachment. Our local lodge uses this approach to deliver full color versions of our monthly news letter.

IN TRUTH AND UNITY,  
ROBERT RONN  
LINNE LODGE #429

### NORDSTJERNAN

The Swedish Newspaper  
in America

is proud to be of assistance  
in presenting the  
Vasa Star | Vasastjärnan  
in a new format,  
in print and digitally.

Nordstjernan has been a  
lifeline to Swedish news  
and events and reporting  
on current events in  
Swedish America  
since September, 1872.

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

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

[www.nordstjernan.com](http://www.nordstjernan.com)  
1.800.827.9333 ext. 12

## The Grand Master's Message

(continued from Front Page) continues to be at financial risk and concern. The very small amount per GL annual membership dues does not begin to cover the expenses of daily operations. Donations from our members, local lodges and districts are essential to the Archives' viability. Our Jul Gran Fundraiser before Christmas builds the Archives' Endowment Fund while the Heritage Fundraiser is earmarked exclusively for operations, our greatest challenge. As I've explained in other messages, we will be looking at other means to support the Archives without relying so heavily on donations at the 2014 Grand Lodge Convention. Meanwhile, upkeep and salaries need to be maintained and we need your help. Please give generously to the Heritage Fundraiser this year. It's only through your support that the Vasa National

Archives continues its daily operations.

Summer is a beautiful long-awaited season in the US, Canada and Sweden. Many of you have celebrated Midsummer with music, dancing, food and the company of good friends and family. I know many local lodges have had wonderful parties with fantastic Midsummer Poles. Crayfish parties are also on many cultural agendas. Already the days are getting shorter so we need to make the most of this happy time of year. Bishop Hill is especially interesting during the summer months when all businesses are open and festivals are in progress. Consider a visit to the village and our Archives.

You recently received the activity agenda from our New York host lodge, District No. 4 for the 2014 Grand Lodge Convention to be held in Rye, NY very close to New York City.

As you know, NY City is a world famous entertainment leader. There are many fabulous functions planned for you. Visitors in the US are drawn to New York for Broadway shows, gourmet dining and sightseeing. When you read the 2014 itinerary in this issue, please remember the activities in "the Big Apple" come with a cost but will provide GL officers, delegates, members and guests an unforgettable lifetime experience.

Fall district conventions will begin again, now, in September. You will be holding elections including choosing your 2014 Grand Lodge Delegate. I need to continue to remind those who decide to run as delegates and those who will be casting a vote to take this task very seriously. Look for a GL Delegate who will not only support the interest of your district but will make courageous decisions

related to the future financial needs of the Order. Your delegate should also be someone who will be eager to run for a leadership role in the Grand Lodge. We've made continuous progress over the past three years because the current Grand Lodge Board Members have been innovative, open minded and willing to make difficult decisions for the good of the Order. I will continue to share Grand Lodge developments with you in detail when I visit your conventions during the next year and answer any questions you may have. Thank you for your ongoing support and support of the decisions made by the GL Executive Board.

IN TRUTH AND UNITY,  
BILL LUNDQUIST, GRAND MASTER

# GRAND LODGE NEWS

## Highlights of Grand Lodge Executive Board Meeting 2013

The Grand Lodge Executive Board meeting was held on April 23-25, 2013 in Milpitas, California, during the week prior to the Golden Gate District No. 12 annual convention. All board members were present, including new members Doreen Nyroos, GLEB-Canada and Wayne Pierson, GLEB-Western Region.

Many administrative issues were discussed and preparation of motions to present to the Grand Lodge Convention next year. Here are some highlights of special interest to the membership:

1. A project is in progress to set up an interactive site for discussions and sharing of ideas among Cultural Leaders across all districts and local lodges. GL Cultural Director Inger Hanright, GL Audio Visual Director Mike Pearson, and VDM Sandra Petersson (DL Alberta #18) are coordinating this effort.

2. Very Exciting News! Funds are now available, thanks to the many generous donors to the scholarship funds, to the Education Stamp campaigns and income from investments including the bequest received from the Bertha Evelyn Kalm estate, the Grand Lodge voted to award, in 2014, at least eight \$1,000 college/vocational school scholarships, five Sjölund two-week camp awards

with up to \$600 travel allowance, reinstatement of the grants to the Children's Clubs of a \$200 grant to all active Children's Clubs, and \$200 to each newly organized and each re-activated Children's Club.

3. Grand Lodge Membership Chairman Art Bjorkner has developed a Membership Kit and has made it available on the Vasa web site [www.vasaorder.com](http://www.vasaorder.com).

4. The GL board voted to form a new partnership between The Vasa Star and Nordstjernan, the Swedish newspaper for all of Swedish-America, founded in 1872. With this issue you are receiving a combined Vasa Star/Nordstjernan. Not only are you receiving the same Vasa Star publication, but you will also receive four issues of Nordstjernan during the year at no extra charge. We hope you will enjoy receiving this expanded news about all things Swedish.

5. The board accepted the 2012 Financial Statement produced by our accounting firm Abbot, Stringham & Lynch CPA of San Jose, California. ASL performed a review of all financial matters of the Grand Lodge and their report was in-depth and thorough.

6. Budgets for the fiscal/calendar years of 2013 and 2014 were presented and discussed in great detail. The budget for 2013

was accepted. A proposed budget for 2014 to present to the Grand Lodge Convention's Finance Committee was approved. This plan itemizes the cost per member for each line item and the resulting decision will determine the assessments for approval for the coming term.

7. The Finance Committee discussed a major overhaul of the financial processes of the Grand Lodge and will present a number of motions to the Grand Lodge meeting to bring these changes into effect. The committee has contracted with the law firm of Stanger and Arnold in West Hartford Connecticut (because we were chartered in the State of Connecticut) as well as with our accounting firm, ASL, to advise us on the legality of all issues for consideration. (All motions will be distributed to the membership via the local lodges.)

8. Disappointment was expressed at the lack of response to correspondence sent to lodges. Swedish lodges write to local lodges in USA and Canada and receive no response. The same occurs with correspondence sent to Swedish lodges. Please consider these as letters from your Vasa family and worthy of your time and effort to respond.

9. A demonstration was presented of the

members-only web site being developed by Quint Friesen, a software developer and member of Svea Lodge #348 in San Jose. This exciting web site is nearing completion. A user-name and password will be required to access. This valuable tool will be accessible for all members to view and for local lodge and district lodge officers to coordinate record-keeping of all members in the lodge. Information stored will include membership lists, offices held, etc. Local Lodge administrators will be asked to enter historical data in Excel or Access and send in for download to this new database. Vasa material such as photos of all jewelry, printed materials, forms, rituals, etc. will be available. A photo gallery of activities held and notices of upcoming events can be posted to this site. This will become a very valuable tool in record keeping for all levels within the Vasa Order.

If you have any questions about these or any other issues concerning the Grand Lodge, feel free to contact your Regional Grand Lodge Board Member, or any of the Grand Lodge Officers.

SUBMITTED BY JOANIE GRAHAM,  
GRAND SECRETARY (VASAJLG@AOL.COM)

## 2013 Grand Lodge Scholarship Winners

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

The Grand Lodge Executive Board will also award up to four Sjölund Scholarships to qualified applicants from the U.S. and Canada.

Watch for further information at the Vasa website, [www.vasaorder.com](http://www.vasaorder.com). As well as in the next issue of The Vasa Star.



### Kaitlin Westlund

Nordik Folk Lodge No. 761  
DL Lake Michigan No. 8

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

Kaitlin is currently enrolled at Indiana University, Kelly School of Business in Bloomington, Indiana, where she studies

Business Economics and Public Policy as well as International Business. After graduating she intends to go into business consulting or the business of international aviation. Kaitlin has been a Vasa member since 2006 and was a member of the Nordkids Children's Club for 10 year. In her Lodge she has been serving on the Membership Committee for the last four years.



### Courtney Meyer

Northern Light Lodge No. 137  
DL Pacific Southwest No. 15

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

Courtney graduated this spring with honors from her College Preparatory studies at Redondo Union High School in Redondo Beach California. She will be attending University of Oregon in the fall, studying

Business. Courtney has been a member of Vasa since 2009. In her Lodge she has been in the Lucia Procession 10 years, serving as Lucia the last four years.



### Emma Thofson

Runeberg Lodge No. 137  
DL Minnesota No. 7

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

Emma is currently enrolled at Bemidji State University in Bemidji, Minnesota, entering her third year studying Design Technology. She is an excellent student, having been on Dean's List and President's List every semester in attendance. After graduating she is hoping spend a summer studying in Uppsala. Emma has been a Vasa member since 2007. She danced in the Vasa Jr. Folk Dancers from age 5 until her graduation from High School. Emma has attended Sjölund

a number of times, first as a camper and then later in a staff position.



### Miriam McCauley

Astor Lodge No. 215

DL Pacific Northwest No. 13

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

Miriam is currently attending Concordia University in Portland, Oregon, where she is in her junior year, studying Psychology and maintaining a 3.95 GPA. After graduation she plans to continue her studies in a Professional Counseling graduate program at Lewis and Clark College. Miriam is a member of Astor Lodge #215 in Astoria OR. She has been an active member in Vasa since 2009. She was serving as Miss Sweden in 2010 and has been helping out at many different events in the Vasa community.

# DISTRICT LODGE NEWS

## New Members

**DL CONNECTICUT NO. 1**  
**Karl XII Lodge No. 103**  
Mark Lawson

**DL MASSACHUSETTS NO. 2**  
**Brage-Iduna Lodge No. 9**  
Maria Renee Carlson  
Jill Marie Mazzaferro  
Linda Johnson Schoonover

**Nordic Lodge No. 611**  
Charlotte E. Dion-Gaarde  
Merryl Havens  
Karin L. Lynde  
Richard A. Lynde  
Lynne Aronson Martin  
Karen J. Nelson  
Jared Samuel Parretti  
Sherilynne Parretti  
Linda Jo Porter

**Vinland of Cape Cod Lodge No. 703**  
Grace Marie Sohoel-Goldberg

**DL RHODE ISLAND NO. 3**  
**Svea Lodge No. 362**  
Michael Thomas McDuff

**Pioneer Lodge No. 506**  
George Louis Glover III

**DL NEW YORK NO. 4**  
**Thule Lodge No. 127**  
Carol Marlene Anderson  
Michael Paul Krott

**DL NEW JERSEY NO. 6**  
**Arlington Lodge No. 62**  
Robert D. O'Connell  
Tar-Lyn O'Connell  
Clark R. Paddock  
Renee L. Paddock  
Timothy Prutzman  
Kirsten Roth  
Joseph P. Salerno

**Linne Lodge No. 429**  
Joyce Antila Phipps  
Joanna R. Winquist

**Austin Lodge No. 466**  
MaggiePop  
Daniel B. Rambo  
John Sandors

**Gothiod Lodge No. 486**  
Daniele Marie Miele

**Vågen Lodge No. 588**  
Eileen Ann Hood

**Three Crowns Lodge No. 704**  
Richard N. Biebel, Jr.

**DL MINNESOTA NO. 7**  
**John Morton Lodge No. 488**  
Carol Jean Pickhardt  
Calra Ronalyn Twardowski

**DL LAKE MICHIGAN NO. 8**  
**Svea Lodge No. 253**  
Marc Anthony Hagn  
Wendy Joy Hagn  
Andrew Iver Johnsen  
Brenda Ann Miller  
Jeff Earl Peterson  
David Christopher Young

**Viljan Lodge No. 349**  
Elizabeth Sue Cleveland  
Julia Caroline Lekander  
Anders Lofgren  
Britt-Marie Lofgren  
Marilyn M. McConnaughay  
Mary Katherine McConnaughay

**Joe Harbor Lodge No. 534**  
Jack Edward Gould  
Lydia Marie Gould  
Alan Wenstrand  
Nancy Wenstrand

**Satellite Lodge No. 661**  
Barbara Ann Bragagnini  
Marilyn L. Sigler

Douglas Leroy Sten  
**Bishop Hill Lodge No. 683**  
Dorothy Ann Clark  
Christine Lynn Fredrickson  
Larry Dale Hanson

**Hagar Lodge No. 721**  
Bruce Erik Carlson  
Ellen L. Cirino

**Lindgren Lodge No. 754**  
John Charles Jacques  
Dennis George Miller  
Desi Angela Nunez  
Beckett Nunez-Miller

**Nordik Folk Lodge No. 761**  
Joella Donata Hultgren (dual)  
Tonia L. Tomky

**Jubileum Lodge No. 755**  
A. Margaret Elowson  
Ann C. Hanson  
Wesley L. Hanson  
Roland K. Littlewood

**DL PENNSYLVANIA NO. 9**  
**Nobel-Monitor Lodge No. 130**  
Marie Louise Schröder

**DL SUPERIOR NO. 10**  
**Framåt Lodge No. 463**  
William George Nelson

**DL GOLDEN GATE NO. 12**  
**Fylgia Lodge No. 119**  
Diana Giomi

**Svea Lodge No. 348**  
Margie Alving  
Robert A. Homer  
Diane L. Maynard  
James Alvin Melin  
Viveka L. Nevins  
Jeanette Olsson

**Sveaborg Lodge No. 449**  
Linnea Birgitta Howie  
Bert Sheldon  
Chandra Sue Damele

**Lindbergh Lodge No. 494**  
Peter A. Johanson

**Linnea Lodge No. 504**  
Kimberly Marie Franks  
Marianne Karin Mander  
Sten J. Mander  
Christine Margareta Mander

**Norden Lodge No. 684**  
Lizzette Deel  
Clyda Mae Dehn  
Brittany Kristiana Johnson  
Stephanie Laich  
Marjorie L. Risi  
PJ (Peppy) Scott  
Rev. Arlynnen Claire Turnquist

**Skogen Lodge No. 700**  
Gail Elizabeth Nemy

**Valhalla Scandinavians Lodge No. 746**  
Hannah Christine Eckstein  
Diane Finn

**DL PACIFIC NORTHWEST NO. 13**  
**North Star Lodge No. 145**  
Rodney A. Aho  
Ann Birgitta Fly  
Sharon Bird Highland  
Sharon A. Moses  
Eunice Ann Poirier

**Norden Lodge No. 233**  
Sandra Marie Lind  
Cathy Johnston Rulien  
Harvey Harkness Rulien  
Robert William Stephenson

**Skogsblomman Lodge No. 378**  
Erik Timothy Bentzen  
Johan Bertil Morn  
Maj-Gret Edelgard Morn  
Jesse Eugene Scott

**Olympia Lodge No. 550**  
Jenifer Manley

**DL PACIFIC SOUTHWEST NO. 15**  
**North Star Lodge No. 106**  
Edith R. Mayerson

**Skandia Lodge No. 247**  
Rachel Kathleen Demarjian  
Lauran Eva Spencer McClure  
Kathleen Patricia McGinley  
Bryan J. Rose

**Oak Leaf Lodge No. 685**  
Daniel Eric Madison  
Shari Ann-Marie Madison  
Shawna Janna-Julie Shirk

**Baltic Lodge No. 689**  
Helen Hathaway  
Jamie Scott  
Iris M. Starkey

**DL IOWA-NEBRASKA NO. 17**  
**Norrskenet Lodge No. 331**  
Beth Nettleton  
Paul Olson

**DL ALBERTA NO. 18**  
**Branting Lodge No. 417**  
Daniel Green  
Karl Nordin

**Nordstjärnan Lodge No. 575**  
Tammy L. Aab  
Darryl K. Aab  
Lawrence W. Dool  
Lori Dawn Dool  
Maja A. Holmlund  
Kurt Nahuliak  
Stephanie Nicole Schmidt  
Phyllis M. Sjogren

**DL SÖDRA SVERIGE NR. 20**  
**Kärnan Lodge Nr. 608**  
Birgitta Nilsson  
Mats Nilsson

**Christian Lodge Nr. 617**  
Eva Thell

**Småland Lodge Nr. 618**  
Lennart Malmberg  
Joacim Svahn

**Calmare Nyckel Lodge Nr. 628**  
Kerstin Edvinsson  
Bengt Edvinsson

**Carl van Linné Lodge Nr. 678**  
Christer Höök  
Marianne Höök

**Westervik Lodge Nr. 679**  
Margareta Geary  
William L. Geary  
Björn Malm  
Annelie Wahlin  
Peter Wahlin

**Blå Jungfrun Lodge Nr. 749**  
Ingalill Nyberg  
Ulf Nyberg  
Britt Redborn

**DL ARIZONA NO. 21**  
**Phoenix Lodge No. 677**  
Judith B. Ahlberg  
Fred D. Artus  
Bruce A. Barkley  
Jeanon Elene Lynch  
Carolyn Markson  
Lillian E. More

**Scandia Lodge No. 728**  
Alice E. Perkins  
Jeannie Anderson

**GRAND LODGE JURISDICTION**  
**Nordic Lodge No. 708**  
Jim Baker

**Carl XVI Gustaf Lodge No. 716**  
Jenny Barbara Jacobs  
Allen Eugene Olson



*Linné Lodge 153 Representative Gordon Westergren and Member Sinikka Rionilla at the District 8 Convention held in Michigan City, IN May 13-15, 2013, where Sinikka received a scholarship. The photograph was furnished by Lynda Smith from Nordik Folk No. 761 Lodge.*

## District Lodge Lake Michigan #8 105th Annual Meeting and Convention

The 105th District Lodge Lake Michigan No. 8 Vasa Convention was held at the Holiday Inn in Rockford, IL, on May 3 – May 5, 2013, and was co-hosted by Brahe Lodge # 245, Rockford, IL, and Linde Lodge # 492, New Berlin, WI.

The Culture Room, coordinated by DHFS Linda Tylk, held exhibits featuring the theme “Scandinavian Food.” The Friday night cultural event was a presentation by Robert Merrill of Jubileum # 755, who discussed the changes in the nomenclature and boundaries of Swedish administrative units over time.

On Saturday, PDM Tom Cleveland and VDM Michael Pearson, Sr, hosted the annual New Delegates Breakfast and spoke about the procedures and protocol during the Convention. A flag ceremony opened the Convention with PDMs Christine Kilstrom, Tom Cleveland, and Sten Hult carrying the flags of USA, Canada, and Sweden. Chief

Operating Officer of Winnebago County David Peterson welcomed the attendees to Rockford, IL and spoke about the rich Scandinavian history in the area. The new, www.thevasaorder.com web site, which has many interactive links, was presented by father and son technical gurus, Michael Pearson Sr. and Jr.

The Saturday evening banquet featured a Silent Auction. Membership Awards for 2012, were presented to 1st place Bishop Hill #683, 2nd place to Nordik Folk #761, and 3rd place to Satellite #661. A drawing was held with names of people who had the Vasa Decal on their car in the hotel parking lot and three members received the Viking Ship pin (fundraiser for the 2014 Grand Lodge convention) – Les Touve, Linde #492; Emily Pearson, Nordik Folk #761; and Vicky Carlson, Thor #147.

District Scholarships were presented by GL Youth Director USA & Canada/DSCYC Lynda Smith



*The 6 College Scholarship winners: Ashley LeBlanc, Linde No. 492; Abigail Ogrentz, Nordik Folk No. 761; Emily Pearson, Nordik Folk No. 761; Lisa Raddatz, Nordik Folk No. 761; Sinikka Roinila, Linné No. 153; and Kaitlin Westlund, Nordik Folk No. 761.*

to Ashley LeBlanc, Linde No. 492; Abigail Ogrentz, Nordik Folk #761; Emily Pearson, Nordik Folk #761; Lisa Raddatz, Nordik Folk #761; Sinikka Roinila, Linné #153; and Kaitlin Westlund, Nordik Folk #761. Sjölund Language Camp Awards were presented to Erik Nelson, Harrison Ogrentz, Jennifer Pearson, and Sofia Nelson all from Nordikids #208. GM/PDM Bill Lundquist presented a Grand Lodge Scholarship of \$1,000.00 to Kaitlin Westlund, Nordik Folk No. 761.

VDM Michael Pearson, Sr. presented the District's Distinguished Service Award to GL Youth Director USA & Canada/DSCYC Lynda Smith. Lynda was awarded a pendant bearing the Vasa Order emblem, the designation "DSA," and her initials. Congratulations, Lynda.

On Sunday, a Memorial Service was held to remember the members who died during 2012. Participating in the service were Gunnard Swanson, pianist, the Vasa Choir, and Marvin Anderson, Inez Törnblom, and Hulia LeKander. The Installation Team, consisting of PDM Sheila Lundquist, PDM Tom Cleveland, GM William Lundquist, PDM Christine Kilstrom and PDM Sten Hult installed the newly elected officers for 2013-2014: District Master – Edward Hultgren; Vice District Master – Michael Pearson, Sr.; District Secretary - Nancy Hult; Assistant District Secretary – Joella Hultgren; District Hospital Fund Secretary – Linda Tylk; Dis-

trict Treasurer – Susan Cleveland; District Executive Board Member – Gene Kiesel; District Executive Board Member – Paula Stopka; District Supervisor Of Children And Youth Clubs – Lynda Smith; District Cultural Leader – Timothy Ogrentz; District Chaplain – Inez Törnblom; District Master Of Ceremonies – Gunnard Swanson; District Inner Guard – James Pelzman; District Outer Guard – John Loula; District Auditor (3 years) – Herb Smith; District Auditor (2 years) – David Runstrom; District Auditor (1 year) – Eric Swanson; District Historian – Iva Lynn; and Past District Master – Tom Cleveland.

The Sunday post-Convention lunch was provided by Brahe #245 at their beautiful Vasa Park building in Rockford, IL. Tack Så Mycket to Brahe # 245 for their generous hospitality and hard work.

JOELLA D. HULTGREN,  
ASSISTANT DISTRICT SECRETARY



The elected officers of District 8 for 2013 - 2014: District Master - Edward Hultgren; Vice District Master - Michael Pearson, Sr.; District Secretary - Nancy Hult; Assistant District Secretary - Joella Hultgren; District Hospital Fund Secretary - Linda Tylk; District Treasurer - Susan Cleveland; District Executive Board Member - Gene Kiesel; District Executive Board Member - Paula Stopka; District Supervisor Of Children And Youth Clubs - Lynda Smith; District Cultural Leader - Timothy Ogrentz; District Chaplain - Inez Törnblom; District Master Of Ceremonies - Gunnard Swanson; District Inner Guard - James Pelzman; District Outer Guard - John Loula; District Auditor (3 years) - Herb Smith; District Auditor (2 years) - David Runstrom; District Auditor (1 year) - Eric Swanson; District Historian - Iva Lynn; and Past District Master - Tom Cleveland.

*Remember the  
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when you are making a  
memorial donation*

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For Videos and Program Materials  
Contact:

**AUDIO-VISUAL DIRECTOR**  
**Mike Pearson**

7390 New Hampshire Pl.  
Hammond, IN 46323-2937 USA  
Phone 219-588-4752

Email:  
MikePearson@Nordicfolk.com

## The Grand Lodge 2014 Scholarship and Essay Contest

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

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

**Applications will be available at the Vasa website ([www.vasaorder.com](http://www.vasaorder.com)) from September 15, 2013 to January 15, 2014.**

**To be eligible, all the following items must be postmarked no later than February 15, 2014 to be considered.**

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

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

### **Suggested Essay Subjects:**

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

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

**Mr. Tore Kellgren**  
**Vice Grand Master**  
**Chairman, Grand Lodge Scholarship Committee**  
5971 W. Walbrook Dr.  
San Jose, CA 95129  
Phone: (408) 996-1970  
E-mail: [vgm@vasaorder.org](mailto:vgm@vasaorder.org)

## District Lodge CT #1

AFTER A FEW MONTHS OF PLANNING MEMBERS, friends and families of CTDL#1 and members from MADL#2 boarded a bus in North Haven, CT. We all had high expectations as we headed south to Delaware to celebrate the 375th Anniversary of the founding of the New Sweden Colony. Among our goals was seeing and/or meeting the King and Queen of Sweden and the First Speaker of the Finnish Parliament.

The first day we visited Old Swede's Church and Hendrickson House Museum in Wilmington, DE and then checked into the hotel. This was followed in the evening by a book signing and reception sponsored by LL Oscar Borg and the New Sweden Colonial Society.

Saturday was a full day with a visit to the New Sweden Centre at 10AM after which we attended the "Welcome to Wilmington Festival" at the Dravo Center where the Kalmar Nyckel was moored. The sailing vessel Kalmar Nyckel is a replica of one of the first vessels which brought Swedish and Finnish settlers to New Sweden.

At about 1:30PM we headed for Fort Christina where the King and Queen of Sweden arrived on the Kalmar Nyckel, laid a wreath at the base of the monument sculpted by noted Swedish Sculptor Carl Milles after which the King and Queen proceeded to evening prayers at Old Swedes Church. The King and Queen passed immediately adjacent to our contingent.

That evening several of us attended a black tie dinner with the King and Queen of Sweden and the First Speaker of the Finnish Parliament. We had all received an email instructing us in royal protocol prior to attending the dinner. To the delight of everyone Princess Madeleine of Sweden and her fiancé were in attendance. Vice President Joseph Biden along with several other prominent leaders from Delaware participated in the events and addressed the attendees.

Sunday, we were back on the bus heading north. We visited the American Swedish History Museum in Philadelphia, PA to see some wonderful displays of Swedish American history. They opened two hours early for us. We had hoped to visit on Friday afternoon, May 10, and instead they had to close because the King and Queen planned to visit at the time we had scheduled. We very much appreciated their willingness to open for us.

The bus ride back to CT was nothing, but discussions by everyone of what they had seen.

We would like to extend our thanks to Herb Rambo who proposed the trip when he attended the dedication of our Rambo Apple Trees at Vasa Park in 2012, to the New Sweden Alliance who supported us with timely responses to questions on logistics and to VOA LL Oscar Borg a member of the New Sweden Alliance. This was a most memorable weekend for all of us. Tusen Tack!

PAUL LJUNGGREN



The present day replica of the Kalmar Nyckel, which brought T.R.H. the King and Queen of Sweden to Fort Christina, serves as Delaware's seagoing goodwill ambassador. She was built by a group of committed citizens to be a continuing witness to the courage and spirit of those individuals who undertook the mid-winter North Atlantic crossing in 1637-1638 ([www.kalmarnyckel.org](http://www.kalmarnyckel.org))

## District Lodge Golden Gate #12



New District 12 Officers Celebrating Valborgsmässoafton 2013: District Master Corky Peterson, District Treasurer Mike Peterson, and Vice District Master Paul Jevert

The 98th Annual District Convention was jointly hosted by Lindbergh Lodge #494 and Svea Lodge #348 in Milpitas, CA on April 26-28, 2013. Grand Master Bill Lundquist was an honored guest. We listened to reports, conducted business, elected delegates for the Grand Lodge in 2014, and elected 2013-2014 District Officers. But it wasn't all serious work. We also had lovely meals and pleasant social gatherings. It is always

fun to see old friends and make new ones.

On the first weekend in June, we celebrated Sweden Day at Sveadal resort near Morgan Hill, CA, in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Highlights included a traditional dinner from western Sweden, wine tasting, an aquavit contest, and tours of the resort facilities.

JUDY HARLESS

## District Lodge #15 Pacific Southwest



The 2013 Midsummer Court (left to right) Kjerstin Kindig, Svea, representing Golden Valley Lodge No. 616; Jocelyn Pages, 2013 Midsummer Queen, representing North Star Lodge No. 106; and Kyra Daily, Columbia, representing Nordic Lodge No. 660. Photo: Tom Jahm

The Swedish American Central Association held its yearly Midsummer Coronation at

Skandia Hall Sunday April 28.

The morning started with choosing the year's Midsummer Queen, followed by Miss Svea and Miss Columbia. (See picture) The voting is done by delegates to SACA. The girls always look lovely. It may not be a Miss American pageant, but you can still feel excitement in the air. This part is followed by a nice lunch, this year prepared by members of Golden Valley and Skandia Lodges. SACA president and Skandia chairman Jackie Ahlen led all involved with a steady hand in the hall and in the kitchen. We had a real fest with salad, baked salmon with the best sauce ever, rice, beans and cake to top it off. Then came the crowning of the lovely Ladies. Uno Kasperson of Mayflower Lodge had the honor of crowning Miss Columbia. I was just as honored by being asked to crown Miss Svea and President Jackie put the royal crown on the

## District Lodge Alberta #18

41st BIENNIAL CONVENTION  
Hosted by Nordstjärnan Lodge No. 575  
June 7, 8 and 9, 2013

The Convention opened early Friday morning with a Golf Tournament held for those who wished to participate. In the evening the District Master held a reception for all members to become acquainted. Saturday's session opened with the Flag Ceremony. Flags were presented by Darl Brown, Mya Holmlund, Phyllis Sjogren and Stephanie Schmidt, all members of Nordstjärnan. District Master Fae Doty opened the meeting by welcoming all those in attendance.

It was a pleasure to have the following visitors from the United States; Vice Grand Master Tore Kellgren DL Golden Gate No. 12 and wife Brigitta, Ed Hultgren DL Lake Michigan No. 8 and wife Joelle, and Jeff Klein and Alice Iverson both of DL Pacific Northwest No. 13.

Following the evening banquet musical entertainment and a skit were enjoyed. Presentation of pins were made to the following Nordstjärnan members; 60 year pins to Shirley Wollin, Betty Hanson and Bob Pearson; 50 year pins to Monica Sjogren, Elsie Eklund, and Darl Brown; 40 year pin to Ken Johnson.

Golf prizes were presented to the following; men's first place – Trevor Nyroos, second Bruce Samuelson; ladies first place – Donna Englund, second Marg Samuelson.

Seven baskets (each representing a country of VASA and containing various items and baking from each country) were raffled. The winners were; Fae Doty – Canada, Alice Iverson – U.S., Shirley Dool – Sweden, Lisa McMurray – Finland, Bert Johnsson – Denmark, Betty Hanson – Norway, Ken Johnson – Iceland.

A Memorial Service conducted by Phyllis Ochoa and Shauna Labrie, both of Nordstjärnan, took place Sunday. A flower for each departed member was placed on a cross as the name of the departed member was read. Stephanie Schmidt sang a solo.

Grand Lodge Deputy Doreen Nyroos and installation team of Grand Lodge Officers installed the District Officers for the 2013-2015 term. Following the installation Doreen handed the Chair over to District Master Sandra Petersson.

Sandra presented the Past District Masters pin and Vasa Plaque to Fae Doty. Sandra welcomed the new members to the District and thanked those stepping down for jobs well done. She also brought greetings from Joan and Lennart Petersson who were unable to attend this year's convention.

LOIS BROWN, PAST DISTRICT HISTORIAN

Queen's head. The outgoing Queen Emmaline Mauritsen of Skandia Lodge, draped her mantel over the new Queen's shoulders and the Court and their escorts finished the event with a dance to LeRoy Anderson music. Everything was as nice and pleasant as it possibly could be. Special Thanks to our friends Gertie, Sven-Olof, Kathryn, Melissa, Rachel, Beau and Joel. You were all wonderful helpers.

NEL SOLT

# LODGE NEWS



The Great Meatball Cook-off winners with the judges (seated)

## Drott Lodge #168

POTOMAC, MD / Drott Lodge #168 has had a busy spring, with several first-time events orchestrated to appeal to a larger portion of the many Scandinavians in the Washington DC Metro Area. Following our successful luncheon aboard the Swedish American Line in March, we had an ABBApalooza evening in April and a meatball cook-off in May.

Over 80 people gathered at 7:00 pm on a late April Saturday night to listen and sing-along with ABBA recordings, play ABBA trivia games, eat, drink, and mingle while enjoying the fabulous decorations, including a large disco ball, centerpieces made of old records spray-painted gold with mini disco balls mounted on top, a black light poster, and glittery tablecloths galore. Mamma Mia was screened on two walls; some sat in chairs theater style, some stayed seated at tables, and others hung out near the back wall so they were ready to shake it as soon the danceable tunes began. We sang robustly as we danced, and the night ended with a costume contest where the male and female winners each received a golden Oscar replica.

The Great Meatball Cook-off Contest followed our May business meeting. There were eight entries submitted for judging. Three well-known Scandinavian chefs were the judges: Frida Johansson, currently chef at the Swedish Ambassador's residence;

residence; and Marja Kautto, the first chef at Domku, a popular Eastern-European/Scandinavian restaurant in DC. The judges made detailed notes about each entry, awarding first place to Erick Randolph, second place to Chair Julie Olson, and third place to Betty Johnson. Once the judging was completed, we feasted on the different entries, cleansing our palates with delicious lingonberry saft. Summer means the end of formal meetings but not the end of activities. Celebrating Sweden's National Day, a Midsommar picnic with other Scandinavian groups, and a John Erickson tribute were all on tap for the summer months.

Check out the Drott Lodge photo website and get some ideas for activities you can plan for your local lodge [<https://picasaweb.google.com/Drott.Lodge.168>].

CAROL WHITLEY



## Skandia Lodge #247

### 100th Anniversary Midsummer Celebration

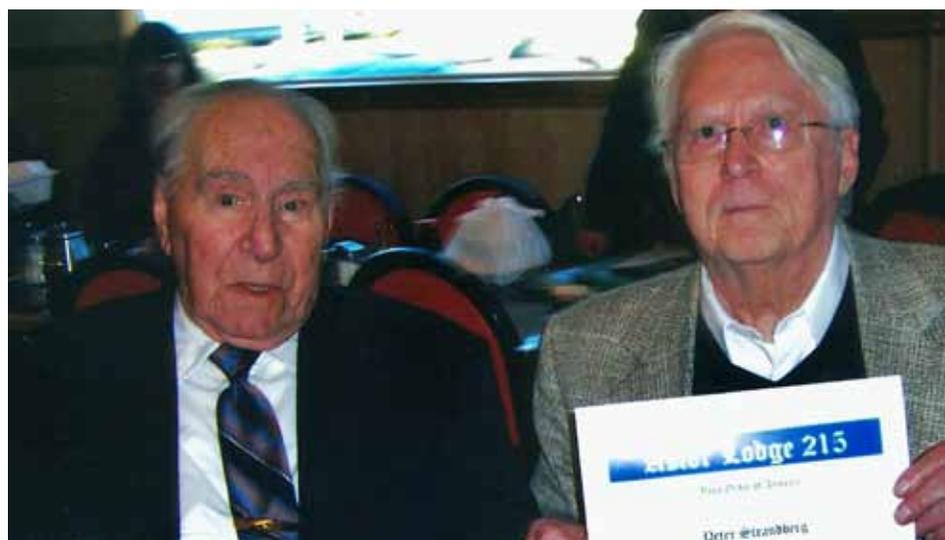
JUNE 15, 2013 / PASADENA, CA / The members and families of Team 100 met at Skandia on Friday evening at 7 p.m. to prepare the Lodge Hall for the Saturday event with one of the most fantastic maypoles we have ever had. The program opened at 2:30 p.m. Saturday by Skandia Chairman Jackie Ahlen and Vasa Choir Director LeRoy Anderson. The Choir and the Swedish Folk Dancers then performed with the power point streaming photographs from our history. The members who received member jewels at the March 9 dinner celebration were recognized: Alma Marie Nordquist, Joyce Woodward and Ken and Sarah Pearson each spoke about their time with Skandia.

Grand Lodge Deputy Thomas Jahn assisted Chairman Jackie with the initiation of four new members for Skandia Lodge: Bryan Rose, Katie McGinley, Lauren McClure, and Rachel Demarjian.

For dinner, an array of cold meats and salads and dessert was served. A musical interlude was presented by LeRoy Anderson and soloists from the Vasa Choir. Following the end of the program, the Lodge was back in order. Many thanks to all the helpers—it was really like Skandia/they really are a great team.

JACKIE AHLEN, CHAIRMAN

## Astor Lodge #215



John Nordgren, 50 year pin and Peter Strandberg, 60 year pin

ASTORIA, OR / The photo is from our January lodge dinner. We install officers and share a meal. Long time members receive pins/recognition.

Astor Lodge in Astoria, Oregon was organized 101 years ago. We cherish members like John and Peter.

TERRY ARNALL, HISTORIAN

## North Star #106

LOS ANGELES, CA / North Star is 106 years old!! The Lodge's anniversary was celebrated in January 2013 with district officers present led by DM Gunlog Spaberg.

Erik Lindberg, who has served as North Star Chairman for 8 years, has left his position. What a wonderful job Erik has achieved in leading us. Tack Erik så mycket!

Erik now has been recruited to take the position of Secretary as Felicity Harper needed to vacate her post to care of her grandson. We appreciate her very much!

Erik was presented with a generous gift certificate at our February meeting.

We regretted hearing about Erik's daughter Christina's passing. Our love and support to both Erik and Birgit; we hold very fond, loving memories of our dear Christina, and hope you both find comfort in all the wonderful memories you have of her.

At our December Christmas party, Catherine Pages was Lucia. She is the daughter of Wayne Pages, the granddaughter of Peggy

Pages. Our Christmas event is always very special and thoroughly enjoyed.

The PSWD #15 Convention will take place at the end of the month. Our delegates are Peggy Pages, Felicity Harper, Jane Sandler, and Valerie Larsson.

We look forward to a full year ahead with well attended meetings.

ELINORE THORNTON, CORRESPONDENT

### Donate to the Education and Scholarship Funds

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

## Skogen #700

REDDING, CA / Skogen Lodge #700 had a Pea Soup and Pancake Supper in January and several possible new members attended. Easter brought good food and camaraderie with feathers and birch leaves. Celina Young was interviewed since she was born in Sweden and she told of the history between Sweden and Norway. She is helpful to us at Lucia with her daughter Linnea. She wore a crown at our Midsommar celebration. We will celebrate our 40th anniversary in September.

*Skogen Lodge Midsommar celebration. Dancing Around the Maypole; Joining our Swedish dancing (clockwise): Celina Young, Kristina Williams, Brenda Earl, Karen Elliott, Ryan Stein, Casey Stein, Kyle Winnen and Ramon Magana*



*Enjoying the Picnic; Linnea and her mother Celina Young*

## Norden Lodge #684



*At the District 12 Convention: Judy Harless, Roselind Gaviola, Corky Peterson, Nadja Witchez, and Mike Peterson*

FRESNO, CA / Norden Lodge was well-represented at the annual convention of District Lodge Golden Gate #12 in April, and it produced several of the District's new leaders for 2013-2014. Corky Peterson, who has been Norden's Chairman, assumed the duties of District Master. Mike Peterson, Norden's Vice Chairman, will continue for another year keeping the numbers in order as District Treasurer. Judy Harless, Norden's Assistant Secretary, will take on the responsibilities of Vasa Star Correspondent for District 12.

In May, Norden Lodge members came together for our annual midsummer party. Marci Johansson provided the venue, Mike Peterson mastered the grill, and many talented cooks contributed to an overflowing potluck table. The weather cooperated to give us a perfect day to come together, and our friend Lennart Kullberg and member Jean Clemons provided the music and led us in singing.

JUDY HARLESS

## Svea Lodge #253



*Costumed attendees: Kristina Grasso, Joella Hultgren, Susie Swanson, Marvin Anderson, Lynda Smith, Iva Lynn, and Ingrid Childs.*

INDIANAPOLIS, IN / APRIL-JUNE 2013 / The April 7th meeting was held at the Latvian Community Center. The cultural program, "Cross - Country Skiing In Sweden", was presented by Andy Johnson, a Worldloppet Master Skier.

Andy Johnson's presentation highlighted cross - country skiing, and the program focused primarily on the Worldloppet, which includes the Swedish Vasaloppet, between Sälen and Mora, Sweden (90km), and the American Birkebeiner, between Cable and Hayward, Wisconsin (54km). Andy showed his skis, hats, racing bibs, and talked about his other Nordic gear. Andy has cross - country skied all over the world, in Sweden, Norway, Russia, Canada, and the United States of America.

The Mother's Day meeting on May 12th was held at the Latvian Community Center. New members Wendy and Marc Hagn were approved for membership and initiated. Welcome to Wendy and Marc Hagn!

Cultural Leader Glenn Sweitzer presented a short program on Swedish artist Anders Zorn whose words are currently on exhibit in Boston, Massachusetts. DM Edward Hultgren gave a summary of the events, activities, and awards at the 2013 District Convention. Our new District Deputy is Timothy Ogrentz from Nordik Folk No. 761. The cultural program, "Skåne Landskap", was presented by Kristina Grasso, a native of Sweden. Skåne is the southernmost province of Sweden. Its capital is Malmö. The present Skåne County (Skåne län) was created in 1997 when Kristianstad County and Malmöhus County were merged, and it covers around 3% of Sweden's total area, but its population of 1,250,000 comprises 13% of Sweden's total population. Unlike other regions of Sweden, the Skåne landscape is not mountainous. Except for the lake - rich and densely forested northern parts, the rolling hills in the northwest, and the beechwood - clad areas, a sizeable portion of Skåne's terrain consists of plains.

Our lodge celebrated its 100th Anniversary on June 2nd at Latvian Community Center. Members wore their Swedish costumes, and brought fresh flowers and greenery for decorating the Majstång,



*(Top) Skier and accordion player, Andy Johnson. / (Above) Ulla Williams initiates Marc Hagn and Wendy Hagn*

followed by the Grand March around the grounds and encircling the Majstång, led by John Seest, Dans Norden Director.

Past Chairman John Bevelhimer presented a detailed history of the beginnings of our lodge. Three descendants of charter members of the lodge attended. A delicious meal was served. In addition to the Majstång, there was entertainment, raffles, live music by accordionists and Scandilocity, dancing with Dans Norden, singing, and games for the children, including a Pippi Longstocking piñata made by Michelle Escalante. The lodge was honored to welcome GM / PDM William Lundquist and PDM Sheila Lundquist; GL Youth Director for USA & Canada / DSCYC Lynda Smith and District Auditor Herbert Smith; and District Cultural Leader Timothy Ogrentz (District Deputy for our lodge) and Linnea Ogrentz (Secretary of Nordik Folk No. 761). Tusen Tack to the planning committee and cooks, as well to everyone who contributed raffle prizes and time for producing the event. It was a grand celebration befitting 100 years of continuing Swedish culture.

JOELLA D. HULTGREN, PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

## Thule Lodge #127

JAMESTOWN/BEMUS POINT, NY / Our Thule Lodge #127 was busy with its summer activities. Meetings were held on the fourth Thursday evenings of each month with refreshments following during the time of fellowship. Our cultural leader Fanchon Fuller keeps all up to date on upcoming events, and always speaks of some Swedish heritage events. At the June meeting, Fanchon told of "the land of the midnight" sun when only a haze is in the air around the midnight hours. Fanchon spoke of their tours to Sweden when the sun was shining almost all day long, and that sleeping meant sleeping with the sun in one's eyes.

Thule Lodge is holding fish fry dinners with a second special choice twice a month through the summer months. A herring breakfast held on Father's Day and enjoyed by many. The annual Scandinavian Folk Festival was held in the middle weekend of July, and the lodge members prepared Swedish meatballs and kaldolmar. Swedish food was not the only attraction of the festival. There was plenty of music, singing, dancing, the Maypole, Swedish crafts, and

knitting, spinning, and games. The opening featured the decoration of the Maypole, and dancing by everyone.

Birthdays for the months of June and July were recognized and honored at the lodge recently with a special decorated cake. On the cake was the Swedish flag. The cake and decorations were provided by vice chairman Susan W. Sipos and chaplain Diane K. Shaw. Shown in the photograph are lodge members Florence Swanson, Gloria Anderson, Betty Lawson, Carol Anderson, past cultural leader Allie Nelson Withers, lodge historian John Sipos, and past chairman and past district master Edwin Sandberg.

Thule Lodge #127 is now into its 106th year since it was first organized. Thule Lodge continues to preserve the Swedish customs through events and activities at their lodge.

All those at the Thule Lodge #127 wish everyone a happy fall season, soon to arrive. We always welcome visitors if you are in our area. "God dag" to all.

JOHN SIPOS, LODGE HISTORIAN



Left photo: New member Grace Sohoel-Goldberg with Grandmother Marilyn Sohoel and mother Deborah Sohoel. Right photo: Our annual family photo! Caring, Dorothy

## Vinland Lodge #703

CAPE COD, MA / Our Lodge has endeavored to form connections with other organizations in our community. Following our May meeting, June Bassett of CORD (Cape Organization for Rights of the Disabled) presented information on her advocacy efforts for the deaf and hard of hearing. She displayed hearing assist equipment that is now available. Dave Swanson planned June's visit for us. We welcomed our newest member, Grace Sohoel-Goldberg, daughter of Deborah Sohoel and granddaughter of Marilyn Sohoel, three proud Norwegian generations! With the popularity of family research using technology, children are learning about their Scandinavian ancestry. It is our hope to support and foster their endeavors. Our 2013 Lodge Scholarship was awarded to Linnea Soderberg,

one of our past Lucia brides. She will study dance, voice and theater at UMass. Our Midsummer's Fest with picnic lunches, desserts and beverages was a splendid casual affair. George Hedlund played Scandinavian favorites on the accordion and Deborah Sohoel photographed our annual family photo. Members decorated our Maypole with garden flowers so that we could sing and dance according to tradition. Our Lodge and Ingeborg Lodge (Brockton, MA) are co-hosting the Mass. Dist. #2 Convention Sept. 20 - 22 at The Cape Codder Resort in Hyannis, MA. We expect to share in fellowship with our members throughout the District and neighboring Districts, as well.

THOMAS KEAN

## Brahe Lodge #245

ROCKFORD, IL / Our VASA Brahe Lodge #245 met on February 24, 2013 in our VASA Park Lodge in Rockford, IL. It was a cold but sunny day in Winter with our park grounds covered with snow. Liza Ekstrand from LINDE Lodge #492 was a visitor who discussed with us our District 8 Convention 2013 in Rockford IL this coming May 3, 4, and 5. 2013 marks the 100th anniversary of our VASA Lodge #245 in Rockford, IL!

Since our January meeting was cancelled due to inclement Winter weather, we installed our 2013 officers who were present at this meeting as shown in the attached photo from left to right: Gary Johnson, Vice-Chairman; Charlotte Tollin, Financial Secretary/Treasurer; David Tollin, Park Board Chairman; Betty Rottman, Cultural Leader; Will Rottman, Auditor; Vivian Anderson, Auditor; and Scott Johnson, Chairman.

Refreshments after the meeting were graciously provided by Tess Anderson.

The afternoon of March 24 we met in our VASA Park Lodge in Rockford Illinois on this cold day with our park grounds still covered with snow. First we ate a delicious smörgåsbord prepared by our members attending today's meeting. Then Vice-Chairman Gary Johnson conducted our business meeting. Tess Anderson, Acting Recording Secretary, read the minutes of our last meeting on Feb. 24 and recorded the minutes of this meeting. Charlotte Tollin, Treasurer/Financial Secretary, updated our members on our lodge finances. Most of the discussion was then on our planned District

8 convention May 3-5, 2013 to be held here in Rockford, Illinois; Park Board Chairman David Tollin elaborated on details of this forthcoming convention and answered questions from members. Informal chatting followed adjournment; then we left our beautiful VASA Park on this chilly day.

On a sunny but cool evening of April 24, 2013, we met in our beautiful VASA Park Lodge in Rockford, Illinois with 20 members attending. Our first order of activity was the monthly business meeting. The highlight was receiving our certificate from District No. 8 Lake Michigan Lodge commemorating the 100th anniversary of the establishment of our VASA Brahe Lodge No. 245 in Rockford Illinois on January 30, 1913! Then we had refreshments provided by Tess Anderson. Later we held an informal meeting to discuss our VASA District 8 Convention which was held on May 3-5, 2013 here in Rockford, Illinois.

Our VASA business meeting was held at our VASA Park Lodge in Rockford IL on Thursday, May 23, 2013. Main items discussed were the VASA District 8 Lodge Convention held in Rockford on May 3-5, 2013, and our forthcoming mid-summer potluck in June 2013! Conducting the meeting in attached photo were, left to right, Scott Johnson, Chairman; Joyce Anderson,

Recording Secretary; and Charlotte Tollin, Treasurer/Financial Secretary.

Afterwards refreshments were prepared and served by Tess Anderson.

DENNIS G. EKSTEN



## Balder Lodge #343

FERNDALE, CA / Our April meeting was a celebration of Denmark with a dinner of Danish Soup, salads and of course great desserts. We had a display of Danish items and a map of Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Germany. We all enjoyed putting a pin in the map of the town that our family was from. It was amazing to see how our family roots made it from Europe to America. In May, we honored Sweden with a public breakfast serving up Swedish Pancakes and sausage during the Kinetic Sculpture race over Memorial Day weekend. Our hall is at the finish line of the race. In June, we were celebrating Norway and had to struggle with making a Norwegian item for our potluck dinner. Pat Ponnay, our Norwegian member, brought in her collection of hand carved figurines and they were wonderful to see how much detail was put into them. We honored three of our members with Life Time Membership this year. Mel Lundberg, Zena Lundberg and Don Christensen have been active for well over 50 years. They have been the back bone of our lodge and the driving force to keep us going.

CHRISTIAN NIELSEN



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## Sierra Kronan #737

ROSEVILLE, CA / We enjoyed a happy spring at Sierra Kronan Lodge #737! A big thank you to the chairpersons and cook teams for the Easter Smörgåsbord, Mother's Day dinner, and Father's Day dinner.

Our cultural presentations at these meetings were quite varied and enjoyed by all: 'New Sweden' at April Mtg.: The Swedish kingdom, a military power in the early 17th century, founded a colony along the Delaware River and its bay as early as 1637. The Swedes lost their colony to the Dutch in 1654, but were allowed to continue to live as a "Swedish Nation" populating the Delaware Valley with a number of Swedish and Finnish families.

'Brief History of Coffee' at May Mtg.: Coffee was born in the Arabic countries, the Turks discovered it in the 1400's, merchant ships brought coffee beans to Venice around 1570, in the late 1600's London had an astounding 2000 coffee houses, it's popularity in France even reduced wine consumption. Swedes love

this black, bitter, addictive drink and today share with Finland the top spot for coffee consumption at 5 cups a day per capita.

'A Swedish Folk Musical' at June Mtg.: Myrtle Widmark and Scott & Kathy Matthews recently attended a production of Värmlännigarna - The People from Värmland, reenacted by a touring group from Stockholm. Popular in Scandinavia since its premier in 1846, it's the story of the tribulations of a wealthy landowner's daughter who falls in love with a poor farmer's son.

I close with mention of the passing of our member and dear friend John Pearson on June 15th. He served as Cultural Leader for a number of years and kept us informed and entertained with his excellent presentations. While we are saddened from his loss, we remember what a privilege it was to have had John in our lodge.

CAROL NESEWICH

## Linné Lodge #153

SOUTH BEND, IN / As of March 3, 2013 we had a wonderful Power Point Presentation by Bruce Johnson on Belle Gunness. In 2007, he volunteered to create a historic presentation to observe the 100th anniversary of the Gunness discoveries and raise funds to purchase gravestones for the victims buries in La Porte, IN. It was his goal to research and write a factual script for the Gunness Mystery and use archival photos to create an accurate account that could be presented to local organizations in exchange for donations to the memorial fund. He was determined to locate as many living relatives of victims as possible who would be able to take part in the dedication of the gravestones the following spring. More than forty relatives of victims were in attendance throughout the country for the memorial dedication services on April 26, 2008.

On June 22, 2013 a number of members traveled to Chesterton, IN to the Solstice Traditions Program at Chellberg Farms. There was decorating of the Maypole, the Musical Maypole Procsson, Nordikids and Dans Norden Performances, as well as Scandinavian Crafts and Swedish Traditions.

Our annual Picnic was July 13 at the Gloria Dei Fellowship Hall, food, fun and fellowship.

The September Meeting will bring a presentation by "Paws with a Cause" representative Andrea Schaffer. At the October Meeting we will have a presentation on Norwegian Woodvarving by Don Johansson, and in November we will have a program on Denmark with Matt Baumgartner.

VAL HORNET

## Skogsblomman Lodge#378

PRESTON, WA / Skogsblomman Lodge #378 in Preston WA is a very active group! We own our lodge building so many of our activities are fund-raisers to help with the maintenance and upkeep of our hall. And the taxes... let's not forget the property taxes!

This April we held our first Swedish pancake breakfast at Vasa Park Ballroom in Bellevue, WA. Each spring and autumn,

we have a flea market which is always fun to attend and is very successful. We have a Swedish meatball dinner twice a year which is very popular. Besides delicious meatballs, our members make lefse and Swedish limpä. We rarely have any leftovers as our guests want to buy the meatballs to take home.

At our May lodge meeting, the gentlemen prepare and serve lunch for the ladies

in honor of Mother's Day, and in June the ladies return the favor in honor of Father's Day.

We will be serving Swedish pancakes at the annual midsummer fest at Vasa Park in Bellevue WA later this month. Each summer our lodge sponsors a week-long day camp for children 6-12 years of age at Vasa Park.

After our meeting we have lunch and

social time. As we do not meet in July and August, an afternoon barbecue and a potluck dinner with dance instruction brought our members together this summer.

SUZANNE LYNCH

## YOUTH NEWS

### Skandia Lodge #247 Scholarship Winners

#### Robert Yankowsky

In March 2013, I was honored to be a recipient of a \$1,500 Scholarship from Skandia Lodge 247 in Pasadena, CA. I would like to thank the lodge for their generosity in helping support my education. I am 23 years of age. I currently live with my mother in Temple City, California and I am attending Pasadena City College to obtain my Associates Degree in Psychology. I have been attending Pasadena City College since the spring of 2011. I am planning to transfer, after I obtain my associate's degree, to a four year university.

When I am not working or going to school, I enjoy spending my free time listening to music, exercising, being with my girlfriend and being involved in outdoor activities. I love to go hiking and see the wonders of Mother Nature. I have been attending Vasa functions and events ever since my mother became a member in the spring of 1997. I became a Vasa member as soon as I was eligible. Some of my Vasa activities are as follows: In 2003 I was given the honorary title of "Vi-Prince" within the Vasa Mid-Summer Court, at the Glenn T. Seaborg Lodge, Laguna Niguel. In 2004 through 2005 I was the Assistant Master of Ceremonies within my lodge. In February of 2006, I was a delegate to the Vasa Order of America District Convention in Torrance, CA. I was also a star boy as a child at Skandia Lodge. I have attended Vasa Park

activities such as Marknad and Midsomar numerous times, since I was a child, enjoying the events and volunteering in different tasks as I became older. I have enjoyed being a Vasa Member which has enriched my life in the knowledge of my ancestors and their traditions and culture. My hope is that more young people would be involved and pass down the traditions of their ancestors to their children.

#### Kristin Demarjian

This past March I had the honor of being a scholarship recipient from the Skandia Lodge No. 247 in Pasadena, CA. I wanted to express again my appreciation for the presentation of this scholarship. It is a great blessing to my family and it was the answer to a personal prayer.

I am twenty-one years old and currently living in Azusa, CA where I am in my fourth year, and final month, of study at Azusa Pacific University. Upon my graduation I will be receiving a degree in Studio Art with an emphasis in Sculpture and a minor in Art History. I am extremely involved in the Art Department on campus, and have been employed as a Gallery Technician for the last two years. After graduation I hope to work at an art museum in LA, and I plan on earning a masters degree in curatorial studies in order to become a curator for an art museum. I will also develop my own studio practice to produce work to show in



galleries, and upon earning my masters, I also hope to become an art professor.

Since I was a little girl, I have been participating in the Lucia program at my lodge. First, as a candle bearer, then as Lucia for two years. I have fond memories of spending that special time with my grandparents. I also have fond memories of spending time with my grandparents at their house in Sweden. That was an incredible adventure. It was fascinating to learn how the different cultures live life, and to

experience the world from their perspective. During my sophomore year at college, I also participated in the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival. I was honored to receive the title of Midsummer Queen during the festivities, and enjoyed being a part of the festival at Vasa Park in April. I have also assisted in serving food to attendees at the Midsummer Festival in Vasa Park as well. I am very grateful to the lodge for their exceeding generosity, and I look forward to my continued involvement with Skandia.

## SWEDISH NEWS



Från v. logens ordförande Britt-Marie Lindeblad, Hans-Erik Lindeblad och Carl Taylor ordförande i logen Olympia från nordvästra USA.

### Calmare Nyckel #628

Vasa orden av Amerikas lokallogge Calmare Nyckel nr 628 genomförde lördag 20 april vårens sista logemöte i Stensbergs samlingslokaler. Ett 60-tal medlemmar var närvarande. Bland gästerna fanns logens distriktsdeputerade Gudrun Gustavsson och hennes logesyster Irma Ågren Persson från lokallogge Blå Jungfrun nr 749 i Oskarshamn. Gäst var också ordföranden Carl Taylor från lokallogen Olympia nr 550 i staden Lacey, staten Washington i nordvästra delen av USA. Lacey ligger alldeles söder om gränsen mellan Canada och USA. Cal talade bra svenska. Han överlämnade en liten bok om Lacey och dess omgivning, och fick av ordförande Britt-Marie Lindeblad motta logens standar och ett litet häfte om logens historia.

Kulturledare Bengt Nordlöw berättade om slutet för svenskkolonin Nya Sverige i Delawaredistriktet USA år 1655. Holländarna ville bli herrar på täppan fullt ut, och seglade med sju fartyg upp för Delawarefloden fyllda med soldater och sade att nu tar vi över. Manskaper på fort Kristina hade inget att sätta emot och någon hjälp från Sverige kom inte till undsättning. Redan några år tidigare hade holländarna börjat ta ut tull av svenska fartyg på väg hem till Sverige med kolonialvaror. Kolonin kom aldrig att få någon större betydelse för Sveriges utveckling och hade en undanskymd plats i vår historieskrivning.

Bengt nämnde också att en delegation

från Wilmington i staten Delaware kommer till Kalmar 28-30 juni för att fira de 50 år som de båda städerna varit vänorter.

Logehistoriker Anja Arvidsson återgav vad som hände vid ett logemöte för ganska exakt 40 år sedan, den 27 april 1973. Det mötet avhölls på teaterkällaren i Kalmar. Barbro Ellinge var då protokollsekreterare. Hon har nu skänkt tre vackra tavlor, som hon målat. Dessa kommer att utlottas, och behållningen går till ett framtidsprojekt inom vår distriktsloge nr 20 för välgörande ändamål.

Ordförande Britt-Marie Lindeblad överlämnade blommor och tackade Margareta Berg och Kerstin Larsson för de insatser de gjort under åren som tjänstemän i logen.

Reklam gjordes för logens gökotta 5 maj på Värnanäs ägor, och Sverige-Amerika dagen på Kalmar slott och Krusenstiernska gården 9 juni.

Under kvällens avslutande middag berättade ölandsprofilen Göran OT Dahlberg om Kalmarsundsbolagets färjor, som trafikerat sundet mellan Öland och Kalmar. Göran började arbeta i bolaget som biljettpojke 1953 och avancerade så småningom till matros och rorjängare och slutade 1972. Under kvällen bjöd Göran oss på många och hjärtliga skratt för allt han upplevt och hade att förtälja.

KARL WESTMAN

### Grand Master's Message (Swedish)



KÄRA VASA-SYSKON, behöver din hjälp. Vänligen ge generöst till Detta är den första Heritageinsamlingen i år. Det är bara genom ert stöd som Vasa Riksarkivet kan fortsätta sin dagliga verksamhet.

GL-styrelsen valde att acceptera inbjudan att placera vår Vasa Star-publicering i Nordstjernen kvartalsvis, som en fördel för bådas

läsare. Det är glädjande för oss alla att se till att svenska kulturen firas över hela USA, inte bara av Vasamedlemmar. När du läser Nordstjernen kommer du att lära dig om aktuella händelser i Sverige och om svensk-amerikanska samhället. Vänligen dela detta som programidéer i dina egna Vasa kulturprogram under det kommande året.

Vi är fortfarande i färd med att göra upp tabeller av resultaten av årets stämpelinsamling till stöd för Grand Lodge Education Program. Om du ännu inte har gjort den viktiga donationen kan du fortfarande skicka den till vår Storlogssekreterare, Joan Graham. Jag är uppmuntrad av hälsan hos vår Scholarship Program och vet att många unga studenter kommer att få Vasa Orden av Amerikastipendier i framtiden.

Den samiska utställningen som hölls under juni månad vid Vasa Riksarkivet var ett stort åtagande för vår arkivarie, Victoria Almgren, våra Midwest Arkiv styrelseledamöter och många engagerade volontärer. Utställningen var välbesökt och gav Arkiv tillfälle att ses som ett nav för den svenska kulturen, för dem som besöker Bishop Hill, samt som ett släktforskningscenter för våra medlemmar och besökare.

Årets Heritageinsamling pågår för att stödja Arkivets verksamhet. Framtiden fortsätter att handla om finansiell risk och oro. Den mycket lilla mängden årlig medlemsavgift per GL täcker inte längre kostnaderna för den dagliga verksamheten. Donationer från våra medlemmar, lokala loger och distrikt är väsentliga för arkivets lönsamhet. Vår Julgran fundraiser stärker Arkivets Donationsfond medan Heritageinsamlingen blir öronmärkt för verksamheten, vår största utmaning. Som jag har förklarat i andra meddelanden, kommer vi att titta på andra sätt att stödja Arkivet utan att behöva förlita oss så tungt på donationer vid 2014 Grand Lodge konventionen. Samtidigt, underhåll och löner måste finansieras och vi

behöver din hjälp. Vänligen ge generöst till Heritageinsamlingen i år. Det är bara genom ert stöd som Vasa Riksarkivet kan fortsätta sin dagliga verksamhet.

Sommaren är en härlig efterlängtat säsong i USA, Kanada och Sverige. Många av er har firat midsommar med musik, dans, mat och sällskap av goda vänner och familj. Jag vet att många lokala loger har haft underbara fester med fantastiska midsommarstänger. Kräftskivor finns också på många kulturella agendor. Dagarna blir redan kortare så vi måste göra det bästa av denna lyckliga tid på året. Bishop Hill är särskilt intressant under sommarmånaderna när alla affärer är öppna och festivaler pågår. Besök byn och våra Arkivet ofta!

Du fick nyligen aktivitetsagendan från vår New York värdlogge, District 4 för 2014 Grand Lodge-konventionen som skall hållas i Rye, NY mycket nära New York. Som ni vet, är NY stad världsberömd som nöjesmetropol. Det finns många fantastiska saker för dig att göra. Besökare i USA dras till New York för Broadway, gourmetmat och sightseeing. När du läser resplanen, kom ihåg att verksamheten i "the Big Apple" innebär en kostnad, men kommer att ge GL officerare, delegater, medlemmar och gäster en oförglömlig upplevelse för livet.

Distriktens höstkonventioner börjar igen, nu i september. Du kommer att hålla val, inklusive val av din 2014 Storlogsdelegat. Jag måste fortsätta att påminna dem som bestämmer sig för att bli delegater och de som kommer att rösta, att ta denna uppgift på största allvar. Sök en GL delegat som inte bara kommer att stödja ditt distrikts intressen, utan kan ta modiga beslut som rör de framtida ekonomiska behoven. Din delegat bör också vara någon som ivrigt satsar på en ledarroll i Grand Lodge. Vi har gjort ständiga framsteg under de senaste tre åren eftersom de nuvarande Grand Lodge styrelseledamöterna har varit innovativa, öppna och villiga att fatta svåra beslut för det goda i verksamheten. Jag kommer att fortsätta att dela logens utveckling med dig i detalj när jag besöker era konventioner under nästa år och besvarar eventuella frågor du kan ha. Tack för ditt fortsatta stöd och för att du stödjer de beslut som fattas av GL-direktionen.

I SANNING OCH ENHET,  
BILL LUNDQUIST, GRAND MASTER

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

Every wonder why or how or when...? Send your questions about anything Vasa-related to [vasajlg@aol.com](mailto:vasajlg@aol.com) and then watch for the FAQ Column in The Vasa Star.

## CULTURAL NEWS

Svenska Språkhörnan  
The Swedish Language Corner

## THINGS IN GENERAL AND PARTICULAR

Practically nothing is left in English of the rich inflection of words that characterized the prehistoric ancestor of the Indo-European family. Traces of this ancient and very complex system of showing the exact meaning of a word in a sentence by changing its endings are still preserved in many formations in related languages, to some extent also in Swedish. This can be seen in how nouns, i.e. naming words (denoting persons, animals, things, material, and abstracts, like house, love, and dog) are treated. To use the correct forms of a Swedish noun you need to know the answers to the following questions:

**1. Gender:** Is the word an en-word or an ett-word?

**2. Indefinite or definite:** Does the word denote something in general (indefinite form: 'a bus', any bus) or someone or something specific (definite form: 'the/this bus')?

**3. Number: Singular or plural:** Are you referring to one thing or several?

This is less complicated than it sounds, however.

## GENDER: EN ORETT?

First of all, in Standard Swedish all nouns belong to one of two genders or sexes: the en-word group (in which we find approximately 80% of all nouns) or the ett-word group (around 20%). It is important to know which group a noun belongs to if you wish to speak good Swedish, since the group belonging affects what endings or special forms of other words to use – but it may be comforting to know that the differences between the groups are not very big, and very seldom would anyone have any difficulties in understanding you just because

you have mixed up the groups. English is very simple in this respect, since it treats all the nouns the same way: There is no grammatical difference between 'a woman' and 'a child', for example. In contrast to this very easy-to-learn system Swedish sees 'woman' as an en-word ('en kvinna') but 'child' as an ett word ('ett barn'), and therefore uses two different words for the English 'a' to differentiate between them.

The rules for telling whether a noun is an en-word or an ett-word are rather intricate as well as vague, and it would be easier just to memorize each noun together with the article 'en' or 'ett' to avoid confusion. Words denoting people and animals, though, are, with very few exceptions (among them 'ett barn', and 'ett djur' – an animal), en words. If you are not sure what form to use, treat the noun as an en word; statistically you would then be right four times out of five.

## INDEFINITE OR DEFINITE?

In English you use the word 'the' (which with a linguistic term is called 'the definite article') to show that you are referring to one or several things or individuals in particular: 'a bus' but 'the bus'; not just any bus but a specific bus. In Swedish this definite article early became attached directly to the noun:

The special endings for the definite forms are thus -(e)n and -(e)t; a noun that ends in a vowel will take only -n or -t.

## ETT- WORDS

Indefinite	Definite
<b>ett år</b> a/one year	å'r-et
<b>ett barn</b> a/one child	bárn-et
<b>ett kök</b> a/one kitchen	kö'k-et
<b>ett ö'ga</b> a/one eye	ö'ga-t

## EN- WORDS

Indefinite	Definite
<b>en dag</b> a/one day	dåg-en
<b>en hand</b> a/one hand	hånd-en
<b>en mä'nnska</b> a/one man/human	mä'nnska-n

## NOTES

-sk- in 'mä'nnska' is pronounced similarly as 'sh' in 'shut', while 'k' in 'kök' is pronounced like the 'tj' sound (e.g. check), since it is followed by a soft vowel. More about pronunciation will come in Chapter 9.

As mentioned in chapter 1 the English pronoun 'it' can be expressed in two ways in Swedish, depending on the gender of the word it stands for: 'den' for en-words, 'det' for ett-words and in neutral expressions like 'it's hot in here'.

## SENTENCES TO STUDY

Var är bilen? Den står här.

Where is the car? It stands here.

Hur mycket är klöckan? Jag vet inte, den är tråsig. Men det är sent, eller hur?

How much is the clock/watch [i.e. What time is it?]? I know not, it is broke. But it is late, or how [i.e. right/isn't it?]

Ser du húset? Det ligger där/där borta.

See you the house? It lies there/there away (i.e. over there).

## NOTES

When describing location, where something is, Swedes often say that things "stand" ("står") or "lie" ("ligger") somewhere, instead of just saying "they are here". Which expression to choose depends on the object

in question and its position.

"Eller hur?" corresponds to the English expressions "he's tall, *isn't he?*", "you're tired, *aren't you?*", "they won't come, *will they?*", "she does like me, *doesn't she?*", and so on, but is not used as frequently as in English.

## SWENGLISH – SVENGELSKA

"They (= the Swedes) take nine parts English and add one part Swedish and come up with a charming combination of the two. It's called Swenglish (*Svensgelska*)" – Colin Moon. The following sentences are examples of the comical effect of such mixing:

– The door **went** (= 'gick'; should be **closed** = 'stängdes') fast with such a **smell** (= 'lukt'; should be **bang** = 'smäll') so I understood that there must be a **drag** (should be **draft**, which 'drag' actually means) in the room.

– Can you please **shoot** (= 'skjuta', should be **close** = 'stänga'/'skjuta till') the **widow** (= 'änka'; should be **window** = 'fönster')?

–Q: Do you have many **cars**? A: No, no! I only have one **karl** ([silent 'l'] = 'man'; should be **car** = 'bil')!

– Show me your **leg**! No, he is not asking you to show him your 'ben' but your I.D. card (= 'legitimation'; abbreviated 'leg' in Swedish).

Do you have any funny examples of Swenglish? Email them to me and they will be posted as space allows! (Don't worry about how it "should be", just send me the sentences and I will take it from there.)

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## About Anders Zorn and Some Other VIPs

ANDERS ZORN (1860-1920), the world famous Swedish painter is not anything new to the United States. Throughout his career, he made seven journeys to America (between the years 1893 and 1911). In addition to serving as Swedish art director at the Chicago (1893) and St. Louis (1904) world's fairs he was hired for painting portraits of some of America's most prominent figures at the time, including three presidents (Grover Cleveland, William Taft, Theodore Roosevelt) and Andrew Carnegie. The painting of William Taft is still hanging in the Oval Office in the White House.

As a reminder of Zorn's work, the book *Zorn in America* with the subtitle, *A Swedish Impressionist of the Gilded Age*, written by William and Willow Hagans, was published in 2009 by The Swedish-American Historical Society in cooperation with The American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis. The book has 390 pages and contains most interesting narratives and many paintings.

This year it is time for America to see

another Zorn, a sort of re-introduction. Plans and preparations have been on since 1992 with Sweden's Consul General in San Francisco, Barbro Osher (VOA:s Swedish-American of the Year 2008) as initiator and driving force. There have been difficulties in gathering paintings, but in February, an exhibition came to materialize in Boston at Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum: "Anders Zorn: A European Artist Seduces America". This exhibition shows more landscapes and figures including nude women.

The coming fall a new and bigger Zorn exhibition will open at the Legion of Honor, part of the Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco: "Anders Zorn – Sweden's Master Painter". It is the greatest Zorn exhibition ever to be shown in the US with some 90 works borrowed from Mora (Zorn's home town) and Stockholm. After San Francisco, the exhibition will travel on to the National Academy Museum in New York.

During his US tours, Anders Zorn with wife Emma also met many Swedish im-

migrants and enjoyed a good reputation as workers in the new homeland, which he wrote about in his autobiography. In Sweden he is considered as one of our greatest artists.

In current Sweden the most exciting happening took place on June 8: the wedding for Princess Madeleine and Mr. Christopher O'Neill from New York. The marriage ceremony was held in the church belonging to the Royal Castle in Stockholm followed by a procession in the city and later a boat transport to Drottningholm Castle, where dinner was served for relatives, invited dignitaries and friends. Everything except the (private) dinner was televised and watched by millions of people around the world. The obviously very happy couple will primarily settle in New York where Mr. O'Neill has his business. He is not going to acquire any royal title preferring to remain an American citizen and carry on with his ordinary job.

This fall there will be a change of Swedish Ambassador to the USA. Björn Lyrvall is going to succeed Jonas Hafström, who

has been serving for the last five years. Mr. Lyrvall comes from our Foreign Office with a broad experience in various fields.

The largest prize in the world for children's and young adult literature is The Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA) from Swedish Arts Council. This year the award goes to the Argentine illustrator and author Marisol Misenta. For more information: [www.alma.se](http://www.alma.se)

From one Swedish award to an American. In Chicago, Kerstin Lane, the Swedish-American of the Year 2011, recently received the Outstanding Community Leader Award for her great cultural contributions to Chicago as an initiator and driving force of Chicago Cultural Alliance and for being the founding director of the Swedish-American Museum.

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# The End of the Large Emigration: Missing Knowledge Added



When Professor Ulf Beijbom wrote *Utvandrarna och den stora depressionen* (1850-1930) a gap of knowledge in immigration history was filled with important information on that period and the first years of the following decade. The effects of the 1929 Stock Market Crash were not entirely apparent immediately, but became still more serious during the first years of the thirties. The author points out that 1932 was the

worst of them. That year Franklin Roosevelt was elected president and much hope was directed to his New Deal, but it took nearly the remaining decade to work. In the beginning of 1932 all emergency relief funds were empty and the cost of unemployment immense.

Besides the general impact on society Beijbom relates lots of individual stories of hard life for many people, not least for the latest arrivals in the 1920s and further on. From statistics we know that 1930 is the year for change from coming in to returning to Sweden. These figures show the immediate effect of "the Black Thursday" on October 24 and "the Black Tuesday" on October 29.

The writer of this review has a strong personal relation to the course of events. My parents had come from different places in Sweden, met and married in East Orange, NJ, aiming to stay on. My father got unemployed late in 1931, but my mother could keep her job as "Swedish maid" and was able primarily to cover both of them. Lack of hope for a

better future made them return late in 1932.

Not all of the unemployed people had any good opportunities to return to, so they had to stay for better or for worse. There was at the time crisis also in Sweden. In the US many unemployed people also became homeless and faced shortage of food and clothing. Secondly some went into depression and abuse problems. There are several stories of that kind in the book. Churches and aid organizations were active with the well known soup kitchens, distribution of clothes and human assistance in general. VOA and other Swedish-American societies contributed. During the years 1933-34 there were between 3 to 4 milljons of homeless people in the US. Not so few went to the countryside, where at least food was easier to get.

A characteristic feature of the depression period was the dominantly male suffering. Women in general were less affected and became more responsible for the family trying to take care of the expenses. This was not

common at the time, but became a necessity. Then it also was necessary to help each other which was more difficult for newcomers without relatives and established contacts.

In most books and articles of Swedish-American history there have been a dominance of descriptions of successful immigrants making good progress in the American society, but we know that not all of them had a good life. Some have just disappeared. In this well written book Ulf Beijbom has given voice to some of the less successful and that is a necessary addition to make the history more complete. The book is really worthwhile reading for all with an interest in Sweden-America, but is available only in Swedish.

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Book: *Utvandrarna och den stora depressionen: Svenskamerikaner i trettioalets malström* by Ulf Beijbom (ISBN 9789173314800, Carlsson Bokförlag, 2012)

## Memorial Notices

should be mailed with check or money order to Annelie Lindberg, 105 Gorrion Ave., Venture CA 93004. Email: editorvasastar@yahoo.com. The fee is \$8 for one column inch. Longer obituaries will be charged a flat fee of \$25.00. All notices must be typed and written in a format similar to what you see here. NO newspaper clippings.

## IN MEMORIAM

### GEORGIA

**DELORES ELAINE MADSON JOHNSON**, 78, of Nordic Lodge 708 in Atlanta, passed away peacefully at home with her family on April 10, 2013. She was born Sept. 29, 1934 to Agnes and Thomas Madson on their farm near Audubon, MN. She was active in high school in Lake Park and studied at NDSU in Fargo earning a BS in Home Economics from the Univ. of Minnesota. Delores was a devoted mother and wife. She worked as a home agent in Carver County. She was an accomplished seamstress, weaver, crafts teacher, square dancer and singer.

She was preceded in death by her parents, brother J. Donald Madson (Alice), son Steven Johnson, and sister-in-law Yvonne Madson. She is survived by her husband of 57 years, Herbert (Ted), daughter Kirsten Johnson in Woodbury, MN, son Eric (Sherry) and granddaughter Rachel in Atlanta, sisters Lucille Kaiser and Beverly Wilson in Detroit Lakes, MN, brother Charles Madson in Forest Lake, MN and many in-laws, cousins, nieces, and nephews. She was a host mother to 16 international high school and college students. Her memorial service was held at Reformation Lutheran Church in St. Paul.

**DR. WILLIAM DERWOOD ALLEN**, DVM, 80, of Nordic Lodge 708 in Atlanta, passed away on March 24, 2013 at home on St. Simons Island, Georgia. Bill was born on November 30, 1932 in Atlanta and grew up in DeKalb County and also lived in Gwinnett County. He graduated from Lithonia HS in 1950, North Georgia College and the Univ. of Georgia with a degree in Agriculture, and a doctorate in Veterinary Medicine in 1957. He was a member of Eta Chapter of Omega Tau Sigma and the American

Veterinarian Medical Society.

Bill is survived by Christina, his Swedish born wife of 27 years, daughters Sabrina Allen Tatum, Kimberly Allen Perea Roberts, son John Charles Allen, his grandchildren Christina Tatum, Samantha Tatum-Bishop, Lauren Perea Gonzales, Courtney Perea and great-grandchild Summer Cassidy Bishop.

His talents included woodworking, mechanical engineering, and aviation, having obtained his instrument rating in 1980, and piloting a Lightning Sportplane during his retirement. Bill will be missed by his family and his friends at Nordic Lodge.

### ILLINOIS

**VIOLET B. CARLSON**, 92, passed away on May 6, 2012 in South Elgin, IL. She was born in Batavia, IL on Sept. 21, 1919. Violet joined Viljan Lodge 349 in March 1970 and was a 42 year member. She is survived by her daughter, grand-daughter and many nieces and nephews.

**MARIAN LUNDEEN** passed away May 15, 2013 in St. Charles, IL at the age of 88. She was born Nov. 1, 1924 in Chicago. She joined Viljan Lodge 349 in December 1972 and was a 40 year member. She is survived by her husband, 2 children, 4 grandchildren and one great-grandson.

### NEW JERSEY

**RICHARD H. CHRISTIANSEN**, age 77, of Waretown, NJ, passed away April 19, 2013. He was born in Elizabeth, NJ on January 16, 1936 and was a member of Lodge Vågen for 5 years. He is survived by his wife Mary Ann, three daughters, a son, and three grandchildren.

### OHIO

**DR. LEROY KLEIN** age 85, passed away September 5, 2012. He is survived by his wife Elisabeth; sons Norman and George; daughter Nina; and sister Florence Rovetti. Leroy obtained degrees from Syracuse, Boston, and CWRU School of Medicine. He was a full professor in Orthopedics, Biochemistry and Macromolecular Sciences at CWRU Case Medical Center. He became a member of Nobel-Monitor #130 in February 2007.

**LEONARD STONE**, age 88, lived in Chagrin Falls when he died on June 10, 2011. He was a life member of Nobel-Monitor #130, having joined in November 1939.

**SHIRLEY LARSON ZALUD** passed away on September 18, 2012. She was born December 15, 1929 and is survived by her loving husband Donald; sons Eric (Amanda), Lee (Christine), and Todd (Shelley); her daughter Lisa Grossman (Bob); and her grandchildren Jake, Macy, Ashley, Merritt, Brett, Bryce, Natalie and Adrian. Shirley was a member of Nobel-Monitor #130 having joined in June 1996.

### OREGON

**MAUREEN KEYES LOOPSUND-STROM** died June 1, 2013. Born January 19, 1937 in Astoria, OR, she joined Astor Lodge 215 in April 1968 and was an active member, holding nearly every position many times. She researched and published an article on the history of local lodges and immigrants which appeared in CUMTUX.

**LYDIA MORISSETTE** passed away on May 20, 2012. Born August 23, 1925 in Hill, Price County, WI. She was initiated into Astor Lodge 215 in September 1991 and was a popular and dedicated member of her community. Lydia was also active in

Clatsop County Search and Rescue and Angora Hiking Club. She served as asst. financial secy. f from 2000-2009 for Astor Lodge.

**ELLA SIMONSEN**, 93, died July 3, 2012 in Salem. Born January 8, 1919 in Taars, Denmark, she immigrated to Oregon and later joined Astor Lodge 215 in May 1967. She was an active member, held many offices, and planned Lucia celebrations. She taught classes in Scandinavian needlework for crafts and folk costumes out of her store, Nordic Butik. She had a part in the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival and Nordic Viking Dancers and is missed by us all.

**JOHN HAGNAS**, 85, passed away March 21, 2013. Born February 4, 1928 in Astoria, OR he served as a firefighter for 30 years. A devoted husband and loving father, John also was Asst. Master of Ceremonies for 6 years. He joined Astor Lodge 215 in November 1991 and enjoyed serving pea soup and meatballs in the Astor booth at the Midsummer Festivals.

### TEXAS

**CHRISTINE M. HOLCOMBE** passed away on January 3, 2013 at the age of 66. She was born in Lockhart, Texas. She joined Carl Widen Lodge #743 on January 26, 1998. Survived by husband Roderick; sons Andrew David and William Clark; and sister Cheryl Walker.

### WASHINGTON

**BERNICE GENELLE BOERNER** died April 7, 2013. She was a member of Solidaritet Lodge 396 and loved working the pancake breakfasts and taking care of everyone. Her husband, Jim, passed away in 2008. Bernice is survived by daughter Jo Anne with husband Bob, sons Michael and Pat-

rick, several grandchildren, brother John with wife Betty, sister-in-law Oneda Boerner and many nieces and nephews.

**VICTOR ERICKSON**, 100, passed quietly in his sleep at home in Bethesda MD on April 12, 2013. He was the beloved husband of Elma Guth Erickson. An economist and WW II Veteran who was born in Chicago IL to Swedish immigrant parents, Victor was predeceased by a daughter. Besides his wife, survivors include a son and two grandchildren. Victor was a member of Drott Lodge since 1977.

**FRANCES O. HUNTINGTON** of Annapolis MD died at age 89 on February 23, 2010. Born October 2, 1920, in Washington DC, Frances joined Drott Lodge in 1983. Predeceased by her husband Robert Tilden Huntington in 1980. Frances was survived by two daughters, two grandchildren, and a great-grandchild. Three additional great-grandchildren have arrived since her death.

**PAUL L. JOHNSON**, 68, died on December 5, 2012, after a long battle with cancer. Born on June 10, 1944 in Cleveland OH and a resident of Bethesda MD, Paul was an avid amateur athlete and a professional health policy evaluator. He joined Drott Lodge in 1992 and served as Cultural Leader. He is survived by his wife, Terrie Nelson, and a sister.

**MARY ANN KELLER**, 82, of Pawleys Island SC passed away on April 28, 2013. Born December 8, 1930 in Philadelphia PA to Swedish immigrant parents, Mary Ann was proud of her Swedish heritage and was a great cook and homemaker. A member of Drott Lodge since 1982, she is survived by her husband of 62 years, Robert J. Keller, a son and a daughter, and three grandchildren.



# Vasa Order of America New York District No. 4

## 38<sup>th</sup> Quadrennial Grand Lodge Convention

July 4, 2014 to July 11, 2014

Hilton Westchester in Rye, New York



New York District No. 4 welcomes the Grand Lodge Officers, Delegates, Vasa members, and friends of the Vasa Order to the 38<sup>th</sup> Quadrennial Grand Lodge Convention, to be held July 4 to July 11, 2014 at the Hilton Westchester in Rye, New York.



Located in the New York City suburb of Rye, NY and 10 minutes east of White Plains, NY, the Hilton Westchester hotel in Westchester County is just ten minutes from Westchester County Airport, 35 minutes from LaGuardia Airport, 45 minutes from John F. Kennedy Airport, and 55 minutes from Newark Liberty Airport. Sitting amongst 37 acres of beautifully landscaped woodland, this Westchester hotel provides a peaceful retreat from the city.

All guest rooms and suites feature rich, sophisticated color schemes and furnishings with panoramic garden views. This Westchester Hotel has a total of 32,000 sq. ft of Newly Renovated flexible function space in 22 rooms to accommodate up to 1,110 people.

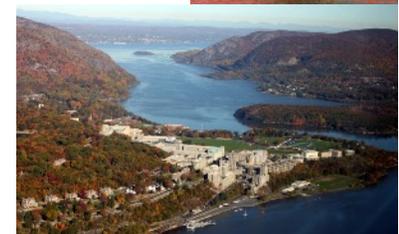


Enjoy a workout in the Precor® fitness center. Tone up with the weights, or burn off some energy on the cardiovascular machines. Play a game of tennis on the tennis courts, or swim a few laps in the indoor or outdoor swimming pools.

**Rooms are \$125.00 per night.**

### List of Activities

- Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup>: Arrival of Delegates and Opening Dinner - July 4<sup>th</sup> Picnic Theme with Big Screen Display of Macy\*s Fireworks.  
Approximate Price: \$45.00 pp
- Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup>: Delegate Registration, New Delegate Breakfast and Orientation, First Session with Opening Ceremonies. Free Evening.
- Sunday, July 6<sup>th</sup>: Tour of West Point with Lunch at the Hotel Thayer.  
Approximate Price: \$100.00 pp Free Evening.
- Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup>: Second Session for Officers and Delegates.  
Shopping Excursion to Woodbury Common to Shop at Luxury Outlets. Approximate Price: \$40.00 pp  
Evening Seminar
- Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>: Third Session for Officers and Delegates.  
Tour of New York City/Manhattan during the Day.  
Approximate Price: \$125.00 pp
- Wednesday, July 9<sup>th</sup>: **FREE DAY** - Tour of New York City, including the Statue of Liberty and the Empire State Building.  
Approximate Price: \$150.00 pp
- Thursday, July 10<sup>th</sup>: Fourth Session for Officers and Delegates.  
Guided Tour of the Boroughs of New York City including Lunch  
Approximate Price: \$80.00 pp
- Friday, July 11<sup>th</sup>: Fifth Session for Officers and Delegates with  
Election and Installation of New Officers.  
Cocktail Reception and Grand Banquet.  
Approximate Price: \$90.00 pp



**Finalization of Tours, Tour Ordering, and Pricing along with the hotel reservation code and instructions will be provided in the next issue of the VASA STAR. The same information will also be sent by e-mail to all District Officers and Local Lodges.**