



THE VASA STAR

VASASTJÄRNAN

FALL 2014
Publication of *The Vasa Order of America*



Swedish American of the Year, Dr. Fred Bergsten and Jenny Bergsten on a stroll over Riksbron in central Stockholm with Göran Nilsson

THE GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE



DEAR VASA MEMBERS,
The fall is already here. The days are getting shorter and the holiday season

is upon us. Within Vasa that means we will celebrate our traditions, including Lucia and Christmas, and share our food and drink that we associate with these events. I am already looking forward to Lussekatter (Lucia Buns), Glögg, Lutfisk, Pickled Herring and the Christmas Ham just to mention a few of the season's goodies. Yummm.

You may have noticed the recently published, web only, Special Financial Issue of Vasa Star. If not, you will find a link to it on the home page of our website www.vasaorder.com. This issue has fully audited financial reports for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2013 for both the Grand Lodge and the Vasa National Archives. This is the first time during my time as a Vasa member that I can recall that both organizations have been audited by an independent auditing

firm. With that we now have a "Financial Face" to show to the world. This has been a great amount of work, primarily by our Grand Treasurer Keith Hanlon. On this same issue, I will also point out that GT Keith has successfully qualified the Grand Lodge at the Guidestar Bronze Seal level (level 1) and the Vasa National Archives at the Silver Seal level (level 2). He, together with several other members of the GL Executive Board, is currently working on getting both organizations up to Gold Seal level. Guidestar is a large web based non-profit organization that is dedicated to making charitable giving more efficient by providing easily accessible nonprofit information. Through them it is also possible to solicit donations, although even more work is needed before we can start that process. This is one of many things made possible by

the Audited Financial statements of 2013 in conjunction with the CPA Reviewed Financial Statements of 2012 (also available on the website). When you have an opportunity please thank GT Keith for all his efforts.

This year the Grand Lodge Scholarship program awarded nine \$1,000 scholarships. More than half of these were donated from District and Local Lodges with the remainder funded by the Grand Lodge Education Fund. In addition we awarded four Sjölundens two week Language Camp Awards, including a travel allowance. These awards are valued at around \$2,500 each. Unfortunately, although we offered five of these awards, we only received four qualified applications. For next year please encourage the younger members of your family to consider applying for... / continued on p5

Scholarships, Essay Contests

The annual deadlines for young people's applications for the Grand Lodge language camp scholarships / p3 and college scholarships are coming up. / p6

Grand Lodge News

Service awards, policy changes and officer appointments were highlighted at the July 2014 convention in New York, which was attended by Vasa members from Sweden, Canada and the U.S. / p4

Local Lodge News

Late summer and fall brought crayfish, Scandinavian festivals, good weather for trips, initiations of new members and cultural activities to many lodges. Atlanta hosted their popular schnapps song contest. / p7

Swedish American of 2014

Each year, the Vasa Order of America and the Vasa Order in Sweden team up to choose a distinguished American with Swedish roots. This year's SAY was honored in Växjö, Sweden on Minnesota Day. / p16

EDITOR'S MESSAGE



Sigtuna Lucia, 1988

It doesn't seem as if a quarter of a year has passed since the last Vasa Star arrived in our mailboxes, especially since holiday planning, celebrations and new year's resolutions are upon us already. Where did the time go? Well, if all the lodge news (starting on page 6) is any indication, time was well spent enjoying a lot of Scandinavian festivals, Swedish pea soup and pancake dinners, even a snaps song contest ... and preparing for the season that holds the most recognized Swedish traditions of all - Christmas.

Like most Swedish Americans, I grew up celebrating a couple versions of Lucia - the more notable one at my Lutheran church. One year, a church family hosted an exchange student from Sweden who taught several Lucia songs to a few of us willing singers. We also learned to put a damp

cloth under Lucia's wreath of candles, how to sing without blowing out the candles in our hands and make sure the pepparkakor was rolled out really thin. Years later, when I was an exchange student in Sigtuna, my Swedish classmates surprised me by voting for me to be their Lucia. What an honor! Turns out my accent wasn't half bad and I had more verses memorized than some of the Swedes! I probably hardly need to say what an incredibly meaningful tradition that was for me to be part of, to be invited into so fully. Now, we are celebrating Lucia 2014, making paper-thin *pepparkakor*, and some lucky Swedes in America even have an early morning *Julotta* service to attend on Dec. 25.

As I greet you all with *önskan om God Jul*, enjoy also all the holiday greetings from the Vasa community - in Sweden and America - on pages 14-15. *God Jul och Gott Nytt År*,

AMANDA OLSON ROBISON
VASAEDITOR@GMAIL.COM

Deadlines for The Vasa Star

Winter Deadline » **January 15**
Spring Deadline » **April 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.

How to submit Photos to the Vasa Star

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

1. Best photos are taken with a digital camera or a cell phone camera. These are perfect when downloaded to a computer and emailed directly to the Editor. Please don't try to modify them, no tweaking, no changing to black and white.
2. Photographs can be scanned, but be sure they are good quality photographs, at least 4x6 in size. If you scan them, be sure they are saved as a .jpeg and 250-300 dpi. If you are not sure of the size, mail the original photograph.
3. Photos pasted into a Word document are difficult to work with, so whenever possible don't use this method. Send the photos separately, as an email attachment or by regular mail.
4. Most importantly, be sure to include a caption naming each person (if it's a small group.)

Editor's email:
vasaeditor@gmail.com

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS



"If we are not seen, we do not exist" —
Släktforskardagar in Karlstad. / p6



Old Viking age tradition rejuvenated at
Diana Birger Jarl Lodge. / p7

Swedish Verbs

Chapter 7, Part 2 of Introduction to Swedish verbs: The future tense. / p12

NORDSTJERNAN

The Swedish Newspaper in America

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

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

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

www.nordstjernan.com • 1.800.827.9333 ext. 12
(Call now for a special if you are a Vasa member)

Family Tree Släktutredningar

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

Remember the Vasa Archives

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

THE VASA STAR

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DONATE to the Education & Scholarship Funds

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5838 San Jose Ave., Richmond, CA 94804

ARCHIVES NEWS

Holiday Greetings



It's time to write a greeting from our archives and Bishop Hill.

The weather has changed drastically here. It felt kind of chilly when I came back from my grand trip to

District Lodge No. 9 Convention in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. It was a very pleasant weekend with many nice people in attendance. A warm thank you to DL 9 for making my trip possible.

On the last day, we enjoyed a very interesting guided tour of Gettysburg, the battlefield and museum. If you haven't visited the area, I really recommend it. As part of my trip, I had the honor of visiting Mr. and Mrs. Rolf Bergman, who took me on an educational tour of Cleveland, Ohio.

I have traveled quite a bit this year, so I will also thank the Hult and Tollin families for being at the archives while I was away. I know they were kept busy and hardly had time for lunch, especially during the Agricultural Days, which is a demanding weekend for the entire village.

Our next event will be in December when we have our annual Julgran Memorial in remembrance of our loved ones who are no longer with us but still in our hearts. If you plan to come here and need a room, don't forget that we have an agreement with the American Inn in Kewanee at 60 dollars per night, plus tax. (309) 856-7200. When you book the room you need to say you belong to the Vasa Order. We also have coupons here at the archives.

Recently, Mr. and Mrs. Lofgren of Geneva spent an entire day at our archives to do research with the help of our programs and material. Family research is a constantly increasing activity in our lives. When one starts to find connections, it becomes an obsession to search for more and more information. It may become more difficult in the future since technology keeps changing — I wonder how my grandchildren and great-grandchildren will find any material if they want to research their families. Perhaps we should write letters in longhand to the youngsters and not only communicate with them electronically. Many young people have lost the ability to read cursive writing. Likewise, we who are older may not be able to read the young people's abbreviated texts.

You are all welcome to our archives for research of various kinds. We do not charge if you do the research on your own. Of course, we would like you to leave a donation, because all our programs are costly. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2015. You will hear from us again next year.

VIKTORIA ALMGREN

Då var det tid att skriva från vårt arkiv och Bishop Hill. Vädret har ändrats drastiskt här och det var kylslaget att komma hem efter min fina resa till Distrikt Logen No. 9 Convention Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Det var en mycket trevlig helg, med många trevliga människor. Ett stort tack till DL 9 som gjorde min resa möjlig.

Sista dagen spenderades med en guidad tur i Gettysburg, som var mycket intressant. Om Ni inte har besökt området tidigare så kan jag verkligen rekommendera det. I samband med min resa fick jag äran att besöka Herr och Fru Bergman som tog mig med på en mycket fin och givande guidad tur i Cleveland, Ohio.

Det har blivit en del resande för mig i år, så jag vill också på detta sätt tacka familjerna Hult och Tollin, för att dom var på arkivet medan jag var borta. Jag vet att dom blev mycket upptagna och knappast hade tid för lunch, speciellt medan Jordbruksdagarna pågick här i Bishop Hill, en jobbig helg för hela byn.

Nästa sammankomst på arkivet blir i December, då vi ska ha vår årliga Julgran Memorial och minnas våra nära och kära som inte finns bland oss längre men som finns i våra hjärtan. Om Ni planerar att komma hit och behöver rum, glöm inte att vi har en överenskommelse med American Inn i Kewanee för 60 dollar natten, plus

skatt. Telefon: 309-856-7200. (När Ni beställer rummet säg att Ni tillhör Vasa Orden. Det finns även rabattkort på arkivet att få.

Nyligen hade vi besök av herr och fru Lövgren från Geneva Ill., som var här en hel dag för att söka sina släktingar i Amerika och Sverige. Dom gjorde sin forskning på egen hand med hjälp av arkivets program och material. Släktforskning är ju en ständigt ökande verksamhet vår värld. När man börjar finna ledtrådar, blir det som gift i blodet och man vill bara söka efter mer information! Vi lever ju i en tid där vi fortfarande kan finna material. Vårre kommer det bli i framtiden då de flesta resultaten noteras digitalt och oftast raderas ut efter ett tag. En stilla undran är hur ska mina barnbarn eller barnbarns barn kunna finna något material om dom vill släktforska? Kanske något att tänka på är att skriva ett brev för hand till våra kära barn då och då och inte bara skriva till dem elektroniskt. Många yngre har förlorat förmågan att läsa handskrift.

Vi äldre kan också få problem när vi inte kan tyda de yngres förkortade texter!

Ni är alla välkomna till Arkivet för forskning av olika slag. Vi debiterar ingen kostnad om Ni forskar på egen hand, men önskar naturligtvis att Ni donerar en summa eftersom alla programmen kostar pengar.

Arkivet önskar alla en God Jul och Gott Nytt År. Vi hörs igen nästa år.

VIKTORIA ALMGREN



Vasa Scholarships to Swedish Language Camp

The Grand Lodge Executive Board will award up to **five** Sjölundens Scholarships to qualified applicants from the U.S. and Canada.

Eligibility: Applicant must be between 12 and 18 years of age as of April 1, 2015.
Applicant, parent/guardian or grandparent must be member of the Vasa Order of America for at least two years prior to April 2015.

Requirements: Award winner is expected to provide:
A. evidence of health and accident insurance absolving the Vasa Order of America of any liability,
B. a letter of recommendation from a current teacher and the latest records of grades,
C. a brief essay on "WHY I SHOULD BE CHOSEN TO GO TO THE SJÖLUNDEN SWEDISH CAMP,"
D. a letter, bearing the Local Lodge Seal, verifying that applicant, parent/guardian or grandparent will be a member for at least two years prior to April 1, 2015,
E. other comments that will assist in selecting the winners.

Awards: The Vasa Order of America will pay the basic tuition (around \$1,925) for the two-week 2015 Summer Program and will reimburse travel expenses up to \$600 against submitted receipts. All other costs will be born by the recipient.

Date of Camp: TBA.

Winners will be notified and names submitted to the Language Village. – Tuition will be paid to the Village. – Winners will then receive application forms from the Language Village that must be completed and returned to them together with the evidence of insurance as requested above. – The program is a unique opportunity for young students interested in learning the Swedish Language and Culture. – Exciting language, cultural and recreational programs are offered by well-trained and highly qualified staff members. – Participants live in cabins with their own counselors who organize all activities and teach the language. – Tuition includes food, lodging, instruction and instructional material. – Villagers may bring spending money that will be converted to Swedish currency for purchases at the Village Store. – Sjölundens Language Village is located by the Turtle River near Bemidji, Minnesota. – The village is surrounded by beautiful Scandinavian looking woods and is accessible by commercial air travel.

Mail the application below, together with all information requested above, to:

Art Bjorkner, Vice Grand Master
31 Vasa Dr
Hackettstown, NJ 07840

Name of Applicant	Applicant's date of birth	Phone number with Area
Code		
Address/State/Zip		
E-mail address		
Vasa Member's name:	Applicant _____ Lodge _____ # _____	
	Parent(s) _____ Lodge _____ # _____	
	Grandparents _____ Lodge _____ # _____	
LL Secretary: Name	Address	City State/Prov Zip/PC

Note: You are still eligible even if you have registered to attend Sjölundens this summer but please check here to avoid double billing.

POSTMARK DATE IS FEBRUARY 10, 2015.
LATE OR INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

Good Luck!

GRAND LODGE NEWS

Highlights of the Grand Lodge Convention, Rye, New York, July 4-11, 2014

It was an amazing week in Rye, New York when the Grand Lodge met in session at the 38th Quadrennial Convention. Vasa members from Sweden, Canada and the United States gathered for business and social fellowship. Here are highlights of interest to Vasa members. If you would like more detail on these or other actions, please feel free to contact me at vasajlg@aol.com or 510-526-5512. The Record of Proceedings will be sent to all local lodges and available to all members as an email attachment, so you will have the opportunity to read the meeting minutes. In addition, the Constitution will be reprinted and available from the Vice Grand Secretary sometime after the first of the year. Please feel free to express your concerns about any decisions made at the meeting to the Grand Master or to your regional Member of the Executive Board (MEB), so they may be brought to the attention of the Board.

1. The Grand Lodge extended thanks and appreciation to District Master and Chairman of the Host Committee Carl Geffken, and to Gail Olson and Karen Snowberg and the rest of the Convention Committee, and all the members of DL New York No. 4 for the wonderful week they arranged for our gathering. Job well done!

2. Obituaries were read for Grand Lodge members: Past Grand Master Lennart P.A. Petersson, Past Grand Lodge Treasurer C. Richard Overberg, Grand Lodge Executive Board Members Jake Gruel and Ken Banks, and Past First Lady Marge Nord. A conference room at the Archives will be named in memory of Past President Lennart P.A. Petersson.

3. Grand Master Bill Lundquist presented Grand Lodge Distinguished Service awards to Grand Treasurer Keith Hanlon and to Grand Secretary Joan Graham in recognition of their exceptional service to the Grand Lodge and to the Order. Another Grand Lodge Distinguished Service Award was approved by the Executive Board and will be presented at a later date.

4. Major revisions were made to the Constitution for Grand Lodge concerning financial policies. If you have access to the Motions presented (see your lodge secretary), Motions 1 through 7 and 9 were approved (Motion 8 was withdrawn.) These include: revising the duties of the Grand Treasurer; a new Article providing a Financial Management Policy; new Articles defining Endowment Funds and Education Funds; eliminating the Reimbursement Fund; and removing the Archives section since it is now a separate 501(c)3 organization, replacing it with a section to continue to contribute funding to the Archives through members' assessments.

5. A significant change within the financial policies was made to the Old Age and Benefit Fund with the approval of Motion 3 – a new Article defining the OAB. This new Article makes benefit grants available to all USA and Canadian members on an equal basis by removing the limitations of District Allocations. The same qualifications and benefits will apply: eligibility after five years of continuous membership and maximum benefit of \$3,000. The local and district lodges will be expected to verify the member's claim of "need for financial assistance." The incoming GL Executive Board will review the Benefit Matrix based on years of membership and member's age when determining the amount of individual payments, and will determine a definition of "need."

6. The Grand Lodge assessment (currently \$15.75 in the USA and Canada and \$13 in Sweden) was increased for the new term by \$5.00 per member. In order to cushion the impact of this increase, the assessment will be put into place incrementally: +\$2.00 for 2015,

another \$2 for 2016, \$1.00 for 2017, and no increase for 2018. The GL assessment that will be due by March 1, 2015 for the year 2015 will be \$17.75 (USA/Canada) and \$15.00 (Sweden).

7. Other changes include:

- A new level of membership was created, that of "Associate member." This member will have paid dues, but has not yet been initiated. This Associate member will receive The Vasa Star, but will not yet have a vote. Once initiated, member will have full membership status.
- Quorum for local lodge meetings was reduced from 7 to 4 with certain officers required to be present as part of the count.
- The minutes of Grand Lodge Executive Board meetings will be sent to the Grand Lodge Deputies, so they may share them with Vasa members in their districts.
- The requirement for non-members to wait outside during the opening of the lodge meeting is eliminated.
- The position of Outer Guard is eliminated.
- The three duties of the Vice Chairman, in the Constitution for Local Lodge, have

been eliminated.

• The Grand Lodge grant to the Children's Clubs has been increased from \$200 to \$300.

8. Newly elected Grand Lodge Officers are Grand Master Tore Kellgren, Vice Grand Master Art Bjorkner, Grand Secretary Joan Graham, Grand Treasurer Keith Hanlon, Vice Grand Secretary Lee-Ann Anderson Hurtubise, MEB-Eastern Region John Hanright, MEB-Midwestern Region Bruce Elfvin, MEB-Western Region Jeff Klein, MEB-Canada Fae Doty, and MEB-Sweden Ulf Alderlöf.

9. Newly elected Archives Board Members are Charlotte Börjesson, Tom Cleveland, Carl Geffken, and Sten Hult. PGM Bill Lundquist was appointed to the Archives Board by GM Tore Kellgren.

The complete minutes of the meeting will be available as the Record of Proceedings and will be provided to elected and appointed officers, delegates and to every District and Local Lodge.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, JOAN GRAHAM,
GRAND SECRETARY

NEW MEMBERS

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

ART BJORKNER
GRAND LODGE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN
BJORKNER@VERIZON.NET
31 VASA DR., HACKETTSTOWN, NJ 0784

DL MASSACHUSETTS NO. 2
Vinland of Cape Cod
Lodge No. 703

F. Karen Gauch
Frank Albert Voelker

Birka Lodge No. 732
Christina Rawson

DL NEW YORK NO. 4
Thule Lodge No. 127
John A. Johnson
Carol P. Metzler
Sonja Fransson Pascatore

DL NEW JERSEY NO. 6
Lyckan Lodge No. 507
Alyssa Lynn Bernabei
Kim Ann Eevardi
Walter Lembit Eevardi
Anne M. Haumacher
Joseph C. Haumacher
Elizabeth H. Merritt
W. Erik Millett
Tage Gunnar Persson
Nigel Richard Pierson
Paul Reilly
Christine M. Williams

DL LAKE MICHIGAN NO. 8
Lindgren Lodge No. 754
Lars Johnson

DL PENNSYLVANIA NO. 9
Svea Lodge No. 296
Gary Paul Larson

DL GOLDEN GATE NO. 12
Sveaborg Lodge No. 449
Barbara Ann Eklund
Monica McKeown Gallicho
Carol A. Sellberg
William A. Sellberg

Linnea Lodge No. 504
Harold V. Anderson
Sandra M. Bowman
Skogen Lodge No. 700
Karin Marie Johnson

Sierra Kronan Lodge No. 737
Debra George Anspaugh
Erik Wayne Anspaugh
Miranda Amber Freeland
Rosemary J. Huttel
Maria Draga Sarich
Bobbi Kay Scalora
Mel J. Silva

DL PACIFIC NORTHWEST NO. 13
Skogsblomman Lodge No. 378

Peter (Per) A. Erickson
Barry Lee Levenberg
Leiann A. Ronnestad
Lorraine E. Naff

DL PACIFIC SOUTHWEST NO. 15
North Star Lodge No. 106
Tore C. Knos

Oak Leaf Lodge No. 685
Paige Elizabeth Kenyon
Fred Louis Rex

DL SWEDEN NO. 20
LL Skåne No 570
Birgitta and Åke Netterheim
Britt Fäldt
Lars Moberg.

LL Christian No 617
Joachim Nilsson
Per Hansson,
Lena Persson

LL Småland No 618
Raine Borg
Inger and Ingemar Grund

LL Calmare Nyckel No 628
Kerstin and Nils-Göran Johansson

LL Tomelilla No 631
Kalle Birger Karlsson
Astrid Larsson
Ulla Nilsson
Ewon Andersson,
Rolf Persson
Anna-Karin Nicander
Annika and Bosse Lasson,
Britt and Gert Lantz

Anitha and Per-Willy Hansson
Ingegerd and Arne Hasselgren
Gull-Britt Grahn
Knut-Arne Andersson
Mona-Lisa Andgart,
Lena Månsson

LL Höganäs No 634
Birgit Goldström

LL Carl von Linné Nr 678
Annika Gustafsson

LL Westervik No 679
Gunilla and Christer Allardh
Marita Palm Ankarman
Elisabeth Reckner Ragnar

Family Tree *Släktutredningar*

I am a member of the Vasa Order in Sweden and an expert in Swedish genealogy.

Over the years I have helped many Vasa members to find their roots in Sweden. If you want my help to find your Swedish ancestors, please email me for further information: swedengen@telia.com

The Grand Master's Message (continued)



scholarships or Sjölund awards. Be sure to have your youth become Vasa members to be eligible for the scholarships.

They have to have been members for one full year by the deadline, February 15. The time to have them join is NOW to be eligible for the 2016 scholarships. To be eligible for the Sjölund awards either the applicant or a parent or grandparent has to have been a member for at least two years. For more information on both these awards, see elsewhere in this issue of Vasa Star or visit our website at www.vasaorder.com.

In my last message I talked about the Grand Lodge Convention that was held in Rye NY over the 4th of July week. GS Joan Graham is now, as I write this, working on finalizing the "Record of Proceedings" (Minutes) of the meeting and will have it available for distribution by the time you have this issue of Vasa Star in your hands. You will find a summary of the Minutes elsewhere in this issue. GS Joan is also finishing up the revised Constitution and will have it printed and ready for distribution early next year.

By now you may have received the annual Ever Living Julgran fundraising mailing from Vasa National Archives, where you have an opportunity to memorialize a loved one who passed away during the year. This is not only for Vasa Members but any loved one you would like to remember. I urge you to give generously to this campaign.

We need to update our website. To that end I am asking if we have a Web Designer in Vasa Land who might be interested in designing a new website and integrate it with our new web Database. The first task would be writing a specification in cooperation with our Database Designer and our Database Director. We also need to find someone to work with our current Web Master with the intent of taking over that position in the future. If you are interested or you know some member that might be interested in either of these positions, please contact me or let me know who I should contact.

IN TRUTH AND UNITY,
TORE KELLGREN, GRAND MASTER

DONATE

to the Education & Scholarship Funds

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

Remember the Vasa Archives

when you are making a memorial donation

Send your donations to:
Vasa National Archives
PO Box 101
Bishop Hill, IL 61419

The Grand Lodge 2015 Scholarship and Essay Contest

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

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

Applicant for the above scholarships must have become a Vasa member prior to February 15, 2014.

Applications are available at the Vasa website until January 15, 2015.

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

1. Completed application.
2. Complete transcripts of grades through the first half of the senior year for high school students or fall semester of current academic year for college students.
3. Current passport style photo (on photo quality paper, preferably 2"x3").
4. A letter 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 in which the student is enrolled or accepted for enrollment. To qualify for the \$1,000 College or Vocational School Scholarship, a student needs to be enrolled in an accredited vocational school or institution of higher learning taking no less than six (6) credits per semester or eight (8) credits per quarter in the academic year immediately following the award. In extraordinary circumstances, on petition to the Grand Lodge Scholarship Committee, payment may be postponed for a period not to exceed two years.

Art Bjorkner
Vice Grand Master
31 Vasa Dr.
Hackettstown, NJ 07840
Phone: (973) 426-0776
E-mail: vgm@vasaorder.org

Do you have a question for the Grand Lodge?

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

DISTRICT LODGE NEWS



be contacting those who expressed interest in the Vasa Order.

About 5,000 people visited the exhibition and the lectures during the Genealogy Days.

Photo gallery from the Genealogy Days (Bilder från Släktforskardagarna i Karlstad) on the District's website: <http://vasaorden.com>

If we are not seen, we do not exist! – and now many Swedes have seen and met some of us.

CHARLOTTE BÖRJESSON, DISTRICT CULTURE LEADER / HANS LUNDEVALL, MDER

Northern Sweden No. 19

Genealogy Days in Karlstad

District Lodge No. 19 Northern Sweden, participated for the first time with an information and exhibition booth, during the Genealogy Days in Karlstad, August 29th-31st, 2014. It was an activity on behalf of the Executive Board and in accordance with what is stated in our Action program for the future of Vasa Order DL 19.

A rollup – a new addition to the district – caught the attention of the visitors. We had the Swedish-American Cookbook for selling. A computer for displaying a freshly

prepared film about the Vasa Archives was also available. We had with us a CD with EMIWASA database containing about 58000 Vasa members in lodges in America, in which we often had to look for the visitors' relatives.

The visitors received information about the Vasa Order of America, and there were many of them who did not know anything of our Order. We distributed the districts' Vasa brochure to interested. We had form of notice of interest from every local lodge in the district DL19 and several lodges will



District Master Paul Jevrt raises his glass to toast the Lodge anniversary.

Golden Gate No. 12

Golden Gate #12 in Northern California covers a big area – from Eureka and Redding in northern California, down to the San Francisco Bay Area and Silicon Valley, and the California Central Valley from Sacramento to Fresno. The District is close to 500 miles running from north to south. That means District Master Paul Jevrt has a lot of territory to cover when visiting

with all the local lodges. Here Paul and his friend Marilyn Alvernaz helped celebrate the 46th anniversary of Fresno's Norden Lodge #684. To Paul's right is Norden Lodge Chairman George Sell and Lodge Newsletter Editor Carole Sell. To Paul's left is Lodge Cultural Leader Monica Shipley.

SUBMITTED BY JUDY HARLESS



Louise Pantaleo, Wendy Winkelman, Jenny Rudberg-Past DM, Kristin Boyes, Ted Rudberg, Sara Nilsson, Gayle Anderson.Vice DM, June Ostrum, Andy Anderson, Joanne DeMent-DM, Pat Flippen (seated), Alan Smith, Bill Bultinck, Carrie Aldrich

Arizona No. 21

18Th Biennial Convention

District Lodge Arizona #21 held their 18th Biennial Convention on April 4 and 5, 2014 at the Country Inn and Suites in Mesa, Arizona. The Convention was hosted by the Phoenix Lodge #677. Grand Master Bill Lundquist and his wife Sheila, were honored guests. Also, Doreen and Ray Nyroos from

Edmonton, Canada, Lodge #18 were guests.

A flag ceremony led by Jenny Rudberg began the convention. During the business session of the Convention, new officers were installed. Joanne DeMent of Scandia Lodge #728, Prescott, Arizona, was installed as the District Master. Gayle Anderson of Tucson Lodge #691 was installed as

Vice-District Master.

The Memorial service was led by Chaplain Ted Rudberg of Phoenix Lodge #677. Marilyn Johnson rang hand bell clappers after each name was read. Karl Johnson lit a candle for each name.

Saturday night banquet was hosted by Phoenix Lodge at the home of Bill Bultinck and Wendy Winkelman. Swedish-made raffle items were beautifully displayed by Katarina Ivarsson. Dinner was a buffet of meat and cheese appetizers, Swedish meatballs,

ham, potatoes, beets, cucumbers, beans and rolls. Dessert was a delicious strawberry cream cake. The scholarship winners were announced. Entertainment was provided the Jim Malmberg of Phoenix Lodge #677 doing impersonations of Johnny Carson. His comic sidekicks were Bill Bultinck and Bill Lundquist.

The Convention was a success that was enjoyed by all.

SUBMITTED BY KRISTIN BOYES, DISTRICT HISTORIAN

LOCAL LODGE NEWS



Diana Birger Jarl No. 3

Mead, The Drink of Vikings

NEW HAVEN, CT / The September meeting commenced with a buffet of delicious open-faced sandwiches. This was followed by a talk on mead. Mead was not only the drink of the Vikings, but of the gods. For the story behind mead, we refer to the 13th century Icelandic scholar and politician, Snorri Sturlessen. In his work

Heimskringla (or the Mystic Ring of the World) he compiles the history of the kings of Norway. It begins with the mythological prehistory of Odin, and here we discover the “true” source of mead. Peace was declared after fighting between the gods of Vanir and Asgard, which produced a new god of knowledge, Kvasir, an amazing diplomat. Kvasir was killed by two dwarves who

mixed honey with Kvasir’s blood to make Kvas, the mead of inspiration, wisdom and poetry. The mead was hidden by the giant, Suttong, in a mountain cave. Odin, using disguises, was able to gain access to the mead, changed into an eagle, and flew with the mead to Asgard. As the story ends the gods in Asgard could not drink all the mead and whether deliberately or by accident

some mead fell to earth, where it touched living beings and those who consumed the spilled mead became poets.

When our meeting adjourned Diana Birger Jarl had several new poets in residence.

SUBMITTED BY PAUL LJUNGGREN

Tegner No. 109

SCOTIA, NY / Tegner #109 kicked off our autumn/winter season with a dinner meeting late in September, when more plans were discussed for future events.

One such event is our Swedish American Pancake Breakfast which we try to run every fall and spring. Both traditional Swedish pancakes with lingonberries and traditional American hot cakes with maple syrup are offered, as are sausage, juice, coffee and tea. Our breakfasts often feed more than 200 people who might opt for both types of pancakes.

Held at a nearby firehouse, the breakfast happens only because of the wonderful volunteers who bring their joy and energy to various aspects of the project. Weeks ahead, Anders Faltskog, chairman, organizes the food for the event, which is not a small task. During the breakfast, our sales table of Scandinavian imports is usually run by Ginny Andersen, former secretary, and Caroline Simpson, cultural leader. Ingrid Frank, treasurer, mans the admissions table and Tobie

Anderson, chaplain, circulates the crowd, greeting people and selling 50-50 tickets. A host of others help set tables, serve, and clean up and break down the event.

Here is our chairman’s favorite recipe for great Swedish Thin Pancakes (Tunpannkakor)

Ingredients:

5 eggs, 2 cups milk, 1 cup all-pur flour, ¾ tsp. salt, 2 tbsp sugar, butter as needed

Directions:

- 1) Beat eggs. Add milk, mix. Sift together flour, salt and sugar and add to mixture.
- 2) For each pancake melt 1 Tbsp butter in a 9 or 10 inch frying pan. Pan must be HOT. Pour in batter to make a thin pancake (crepe), fry until golden brown on one side, flip and brown the other side.
- 3) Serve with lingonberries.

SUBMITTED BY BARBARA JOHNSON NAPLE



Former Secretary Ginny Andersen (left) joins Cultural Leader Caroline Simpson at Tegner #109’s sales table during our pancake breakfast fundraiser.

Fylgia No. 119

SAN FRANCISCO, CA / What do Swede's do in August? They eat crayfish and enjoy the waning of summer. What do Swedish-Americans do in August? We celebrate Crayfest and stuff ourselves on tiny crustaceans that thrive in our California delta waters.

Scott Schulkin organized the third annual Crayfest at Nordic House, and Pia Clausen not only hosted the event at her store, but she also prepared the entire meal of 100 pounds of local crayfish, Jansson's Temptation, herring, cheese, crackers, flat bread and cookies. We constructed the traditional hats for this event, struggled to get the delicate meat out of the shells, listened to nycklharpa music and stepped lively to traditional dances, while enjoying Schulkin aquavit. What a marvelous day for an event that connects us to our Swedish roots.

Do you know what the next big California cuisine will be? On September 20, Scott Schulkin challenged district 12 members to be creative with preparing and presenting the favorite Swedish delicacy, lutefisk, for a culinary event that brought many creative renditions of "how many ways can you eat lutefisk."

And October brought the great fall event at Sveadal: We gather to learn how Swedes came by their family names, why they left the motherland to begin again in the New World, and hear accounts of these journeys. We get treated to superb meals by the famous team of Kay and Bob Beeson, play games and learn how to make oral histories of our families' journeys.

SUBMITTED BY DIANNE DAHLBERG



Thule No. 127

JAMESTOWN, BEMUS POINT, NY / Fall is upon us, and the lodge has changed its monthly meetings to the winter schedule of every third Saturday of the month at 2 p.m. A variety of events kept us busy this year, with Friday night dinners, the Scandinavian Festival and other special dinners throughout the season.

Recently the lodge held the annual harvest dinner, featuring a full turkey dinner. It was well attended and included a special presentation to honor long time member and lodge officer, Donna Sandberg. Donna has served the lodge well, serving as the financial secretary for many years. She also reported on ill lodge members, after making numerous telephone calls to check on them, and always making time to visit

those who were hospitalized. Donna took part in all the lodge dinners but said it's time to retire from being one of the cooks. A special thank you goes to Donna Sandberg for her tireless efforts. In the photograph are some of Donna's relatives with her during the recognition ceremony, daughters Arlene J. Olmstead and Pamela Morningstar, and granddaughter Tes Morningstar.

Thule Lodge #127 is completing its 107th year and continues to preserve and share the Swedish heritage. We always welcome visitors, and wish you a happy holiday season and wonderful new year. God dag to all.

SUBMITTED BY JOHN SIPOS, LODGE HISTORIAN



Tegner No. 149

OAKLAND, CA / Members of Tegner Lodge held a memorial ceremony for Rhoda Gilbertson at its September meeting. She passed away suddenly on July 12, 2014. Rhoda joined Tegner in 1986 and will be greatly missed. She was our "contact person" and talked to almost all our local members every month, getting promises of good food for our pot-luck suppers and news of them and their families. She also helped with other duties and will be long remembered for her outgoing personality. Her daughter, Dru Bagwell of Sacramento, was able to join us. Later, Cultural Leader Kathryn Hughes gave a talk and showed pictures of some well known Swedish women of this area.

In June, our potluck supper featured

Midsummer food. Afterward we watched a Swedish movie, Smiles of a Summer Night. Many members said they planned to go to Sveadal later in the month for its Midsummer celebration. Sveaborg hosted the Tri-Lodge picnic in July at Redwood Park in Oakland. Tegner came in second in the Kubb contest, but our throwing arms need more practice. We did not have our usual crayfish dinner in August — instead many members joined the Crayfest at Nordic House in Berkeley. There were many crayfish with a wide variety of seasonings and flavors to be eaten — plus music and dancing.

SUBMITTED BY ANN TENNIS



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Monitor No. 218

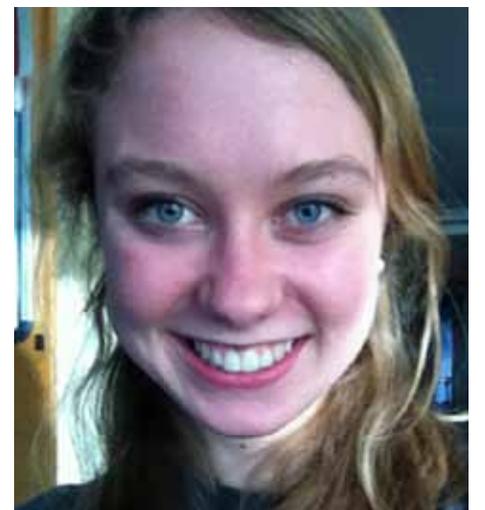
SACRAMENTO, CA / Monitor Lodge awarded its 2014 scholarship to Julia Nemy, granddaughter of Gail Nemy. Julia was Monitor's Lucia for two years, has spent three years at the District Trollebo Camp in the high Sierras where Swedish food, language and culture were taught, and helped with the Scandinavian Festival for four years. She is currently attending Bates College in Lewiston, Maine. Julia spent the last three summers with "Students Abroad" traveling

to Nepal, Sri Lanka and Moldava.

Emily Brown, granddaughter of Brigitta Ostlund, has won several baking contests, including two scholarships, one for \$1000 and the other for \$6000 to the Culinary Academy. She will compete in a national event in Oregon this year. Monitor is proud of these two youngsters.

Our September meeting was highlighted by a dinner cooked by a group depicting "Old Viking Times." The dinner as researched was of pork, barley and onions and was served to about 50 members. A discussion of old customs followed.

SUBMITTED BY ARLIE VEIS, VSC, MONITOR LODGE 218





Drott No. 168

WASHINGTON, D.C. / While usually on hiatus after Midsommar, Drott enjoyed other summer events this year. On a Sunday evening in July, Lodge members provided an Italian-themed dinner (with traditional Swedish desserts) to pediatric patients and their families at the Children's Inn at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Bethesda, MD. Children from across America and from other parts of the world come to NIH for diagnosis and treatment at this premier biomedical research facility. This day of service was truly rewarding and is one likely to be repeated next year.

On an August Saturday, several carpools made their way to Philadelphia to visit the American Swedish Historical Museum. Lunch at a nearby restaurant was followed by an excellent guided tour given by the former curator. After the tour, the group did what Swedes often do in late afternoon — enjoyed fika and sweets.

We began the new program year with a merry Crayfish Festival in September and closed out September with the District 9 56th Biennial Convention.

SUBMITTED BY CAROL WHITLEY



meeting in July. Pictured here, left to right, is member Gunnel Karlsson Stewart, asking Chairman Scott Johnson a question, with Tess Anderson seated to the right. Other officers attending the meeting were Vice Chairman Gary Johnson, Chaplain Donald Erickson and Park Board Chairman Roy Ylitalo.

The main topic of discussion was the proposed sale of VASA Park at a price of \$395,000, offered through United Realty of Rockford, IL. No offers have been received, but one potential client showed an interest in the property.

Gary Johnson provided the refreshments for the meeting.

The next meeting will be held on October 26, 2014 in our VASA Park.

SUBMITTED BY DENNIS G. EKSTEN

Brahe No. 245

ROCKFORD, IL / Nine members of Brahe Lodge met on the sunny afternoon of Sept. 28, 2014 in our VASA Park in Rockford, IL.

Scott Johnson, Lodge Chairman, opened the meeting. Acting Recording Secretary Tess Anderson read the minutes of our last



Linnea No. 504

PETALUMA, CA / In August a small but lively group (21) celebrated the end of summer vacation with a BBQ and potluck. The room was decorated with Viking Long Ships and red checkered placemats to lend to the Swedish BBQ theme. Linnea Koagedal and Rich Johnson shared stories of their travels to Sweden. They reported that while there, Sweden had a record high heat wave, the hottest of more than 100 years.

Oscar Carlson proved once again that we can all contribute to a sing-a-long even though we are not fluent in the language. He ended the program with a wonderful rendition of "How Great Thou Art" in Swedish. So inspiring. He has added so much to Linnea Lodge since he transferred in from Monitor Lodge.

SUBMITTED BY IRENE CLARK

SVEA No. 253

INDIANAPOLIS, IN / Kräftskiva was celebrated on August 3 with 50+ members and guests. Andrea and Paul Halvorson, and Hilma Kerstin Mason were initiated. Thanks to Ulla Williams, Jean Bang, Dennis Danielson and David Duff for arranging this annual crayfish event. Everyone brought side dishes, the lodge provided kräftor, meatballs, lingonberries and beverages, and Edward Hultgren brought two types of his homemade aqvavit: strong and stronger! Douglas Krantz played the accordion and we sang Kräftskiva songs. Games of Kubb were played, too.

In August, Amy Johnson created a new Facebook page, Scandinavians in Indianapolis at <https://facebook.com/svea253>, with splendid graphics and pictures. Like us on Facebook and stay up to date with everything SVEA is doing.

On September 7, we initiated Marissa Childs (daughter and granddaughter of members Ingrid Childs and Kerstin Mason) — that's three generations of members! We now have 106 members! The charter was draped in memory of Past Chairman/PDM Swan Swanson.

"Unearthing History at the Chellberg Farm and Other Midwest Scandinavian-American Sites" was presented by Amy Johnson, senior archaeologist and archaeology outreach coordinator with the State DNR, who discussed archaeological investigations including Norwegian pioneer homesteading and dugout dwellings. Refreshment hostesses were Kristina Grasso, Annette Johansson, Judy Spencer and Eija Vesterqvist.

SUBMITTED BY JOELLA HULTGREN



(Left to right) 3 generations of members: Marissa Childs, Ingrid Childs and Kerstin Mason (September 7, 2014). / Kräftskiva celebration on August 3, 2014. / Amy Johnson, program presenter (September 7, 2014).



Svea No. 348

SAN JOSE, CA / "Old Norse Philology" isn't as dry as may sound. UC-Berkeley Scandinavian Studies professor Jonas Wellendorf presented informative and often amusing history and details of famous rune stones and rune sticks at our last meeting. Wellendorf is also an expert in Old Norse Sagas, and we look forward to hearing from him again.

In May, members painted wooden Dalahästs that Quint Friesen had produced in his workshop, and at the Midsommar Celebration at Sveadal, everyone enjoyed

a relaxing picnic and presentation of the Midsommar Queen, Columbia and Svea. Young and old participated in traditional dancing to Swedish folk music around the May Pole.

Svea 348 hosted its traditional 4th of July breakfast at Sveadal, with lovely weather, fellowship and terrific attendance. As usual, the San Jose Classic Auto Club made their trek up the mountain road to join us and display their vehicles.

Sápmi expert Nathan Muus presented captivating information on the Sami people, their lifestyle, culture and regional history at our July meeting.

August 16 marked Svea 348's 98th anniversary. At the anniversary dinner, District Master Paul Jevart awarded Chris Irany with her 50-year membership pin and Emma Hanlon with her 40-year pin. Lodge Chairman, Ulrika Friesen had the unique pleasure of congratulating her dad, newly elected Grand Master Tore Kellgren. Svea 348 is proud of the Vasa Leadership.

SUBMITTED BY EMMA HANLON



(Top) Delores Gildea (from left), Julie LeBlanc, Jan Kamholtz, Les Touve, Marge Gruel, Alice Schroeder, Susanna, Sofie and Cris Rosario, and Marianne Ekstrand at the Filling Station for lunch in Bishop Hill. (Above) Elaine Johnson serving Swedish meatballs and Susanna Rosario serving Swedish pancakes at Scandinavian Festival.

Linde No. 492

NEW BERLIN, WI / Linde Lodge members caravanned from Milwaukee to Bishop Hill on September 27-28 to enjoy the city's annual Ag-Days activities. The weather couldn't have been better. Our group danced, enjoyed the old fashioned ways to do everyday tasks, shopped, went to the VASA National Muse-

um, saw all the field activities, and together with Sten and Nancy Hult we enjoyed a nice dinner in Kewanee before turning in for the night, just to do everything again the next day. A truly cultural event.

The 24th annual Scandinavian Festival, on October 4 in New Berlin, was arranged by the Nordic Council in Milwaukee. Local Scandinavian lodges provided delicious ethnic food items to purchase and enjoy for breakfast, lunch or dinner. Linde Lodge #492 provided Swedish meatballs and pancakes with all the trimmings, such as lingon and knäckebröd. There was great entertainment by the Finnish Wil Kilpela and Friends Band, Lekspel, Lykkeringen Norwegian Folk Dancers and others. Special areas were set aside for genealogy research and children's activities. The Sami Display had an authentic lavuu (tent), and we even had a Scandinavian style show - with good looking models wearing national costumes. Next year will be our 25th festival, and we are already working on many enhancements and will announce the highlights as they become available.

SUBMITTED BY LIZA EKSTRAND

Lindbergh No. 494

LOS ALTOS, CA / There was no bad luck on Friday, June 13th for Lindbergh Lodge. Sixty-five members and guests gathered for the social hour of refreshments to soft background music from our own Lingonberries band. We were reminded that each dollar we contributed to the National Archives

would be matched by Google and our president, Martin Omander. The program was presented by Kelsey Stiles who gave an enthusiastic, entertaining and informative delivery of her adventures in Sweden while being a celebrity on the "Allt för Sverige" Swedish TV program in 2012.



Göteborg No. 452

Logen Göteborg nr. 452 har firat 90 år!

Vasa Orden av Amerikas första loge i Sverige stiftades den 4 september 1924. Logens 90-års jubileum firades den 6 september 2014 i Ordenshuset i Göteborg. 90 Vasasyskon kom till Högtidslogen.

Kontakten i Amerika informerade Charlotte Börjesson om årets Storlogemöte i Rye, New York, och om Vasa Ordens Distrikt Norra Sveriges nr 19 medverkan vid Släktforskarlagarna, vilka nyligen hölls i Karlstad. Enligt Charlotte var vår medverkan mycket uppskattad, och flera besökare visade intresse för medlemskap.

Under våren hade logen Göteborgs styrelse bestämt att återinföra 10-årsmärket. Elva medlemmar erhöll detta märke och en man dekorerades med märket för 40-års medlemskap. För första gången kunde de dela ut 60-årsmärket.

Därefter blev det tillfälle för representanter från gästande loger att framföra gratulationer och lämna bidrag till Vasaarkivet och andra gåvor. Särskilt intressant blev Ewa Pilhammars berättelse om den stora sociala och kulturella betydelse som Vasaorden haft och fortfarande har för svenskättlingar i Nordamerika. Hon framförde också hälsningar från Stormästaren och från PDM, Club of America - en sammanslutning av FD Distrikts-mästare.



Högtidslogen avslutades av Margareta ritualenligt och bjöd samtliga för Jubileumsbanketten!

Jubileumsmenyn gick i det svenska kökets tecken: skaldjurscocktail, hjortnossetter och vaniljparfait med björnbär. Gratulationer och välgångsönskningar framfördes av våra gäster, via telegram och kort, och hälsningar från DM i DL Pennsylvania Nr. 9 och från vår vänloge Drott Nr. 168. Hälsningar kom också från vår tidigare ordförande och tidigare ordförande.

Banketten avslutades med hela Jubileumskommittén till scenen för en välförtjänt ros och applåder och dans till Erling & Kenneths blandade musik, långt in på natten. Grunden är lagd för nästa stora jubileum 2024!

SUBMITTED BY TORSTEN OLSSON



On July 11, 35 members and guests were present to enjoy Gerry Blaufarb and Mary Morris, dressed in red, white and blue and tap-dancing to the tune of "I'm a Yankee Doodle Dandy." The evening's program highlighted memories of Lindbergh Lodge. Chuck Wallin and Kerstin Jansson remembered when it was located in "Whiskey Gulch" in East Palo Alto. The August meeting featured our popular annual potluck

salad supper.

We are all enormously proud of our own Tore Kellgren, new Grand Master of VASA. Tore and his wife, Birgitta, have long been steadfast workers for Lindbergh Lodge for tasks large and small. We know that under Tore's inspired leadership, VASA will flourish.

SUBMITTED BY BETSY NILSON



Norden No. 684

Norden Lodge No. 684

FRESNO, CA / Norden Lodge had their annual Crayfish and Salmon Party in August at the home of Mike and Corky Peterson. Over 50 people attended the event. Everyone enjoyed the food and the fellowship of our lodge brothers and sisters. The highlight of

caption: Lee Forlines (left to right), Kenia Forlines, Orlando Sagastume, Ben Brown, Barbara Brown, Dillion Johnson, Tiffany Johnson, and Roberta Krugman

the event was the initiation of eight new members to our lodge. Everyone enjoyed getting together.

SUBMITTED BY CLYDA DEHN

Nordic No. 708

ATLANTA, GA / The September lodge gathering started with a short business meeting and was quickly followed by the now-popular vodka tasting event with Svedka Vodka. That prepared us for celebrating our 4th annual Swedish style snaps song contest. The first place winner was Ruth E. Wilkening, from Northridge, California, Golden Valley Lodge #616. Her winning snaps song was "Cheers To All," sung to the melody of Goodnight Irene. Second prize went to Jan Rygert, Nordic Lodge, for "Slurp Your Snaps" to Row, Row, Row Your Boat. An honorable mention was given to Anita Mengay, who won first prize two years ago. She penned "I Had Me a Drink" to the melody of Grandfather's Clock. The songs can be found at www.vasaorderatlanta.com.

After October's business meeting, an expectant audience awaited the 2014 version of the Scandinavian Show, now in its sixth year. This has become a most popular event, introduced in 2009 as an alternative to Atlanta's Scandinavian Festival, which had just died. We've been entertained by many talents, including singers, a balalaika ensemble that played Swedish music, the Vasa Drängar and The YellowBlue, featuring violin, accordion and bass. This year we also took inventory of the local Scandinavian talents, and found four entertainers to put on a mini version of a Swedish "spex." The spex, a unique theatrical tradition developed by Swedish university men 160 years ago, was brought to Atlanta by our small group. The last act on the program was spex featuring "Caesarion," from Chalmers University in Gothenburg, 1950. Caesarion was the child of Ceasar and Cleopatra. However Ceasar did not want to have anything do



(Top) The winner of the first prize, Ruth Wilkening, Northridge, California. / (Bottom) "Caesarion", Atlanta 2014: From left to right: Brutus (Göran), Iras (Sten), Julius Caesar (Magnus) and Cleopatra (Erik).

with him – at least not according to the authors of this spex. And true to tradition, all the actors were men – no matter their part. The audience loved it!

SUBMITTED BY GÖRAN RYGERT



Härnösand No. 673

VASA ORDEN AV AMERIKA

Logen Härnösand fyller 50 år i år. Detta firades med logemöte och jubileumsfest. Jubileet besöktes av ca 80 medlemmar och gäster från storloge, distriktsloge och andra loger i landet, samt av Rebeckalogen och Odd Fellow logen i Härnösand.

Under mötet utdelade distriktsmästare Connie Grön och ordförande Karl Bäcklund förtjänsttecken till medlemmar i logen. Storlogerepresentant Eva Pilhammar utdelade 50 års medlemsmärke till Karl Wigert. Under mötet hölls ett antal tal, samt

överlämning av gåvor till logen och några medlemmar.

Efter mötet samlades vi för lite mingel och trevlig samvaro. Under minglet såldes lotter med fina vinster, som skänkts till logen. Därefter blev det jubileumsfest på First Hotels restaurang. Där underhölls vi av Club 64 från Sundsvall, som spelade musik som föll alla i smaken och gjorde att många passade på att ta en svängom.

I SANNING OCH ENIGHET
BO SELIN, KULTURLEDARE



Six of the delighted participants of the meeting, wearing Svedka Vodka sunglasses, that were provided to everyone. From left: David Stroud, Ingegerd Stroud, Monica Eklund, Jan Eklund, Robert Landin and Sandra Landin.

Sierra Kronan No. 737

ROSEVILLE, CA / Happy Fall from Sierra Kronan, Scandinavian friends who've gathered together for another year of fellowship, culture, and of course good food! We enjoyed a fantastic Påsk meal in April, a BBQ chicken dinner in May, and for June some delicious BBQ ribs with all the trimmings.

An interactive and fun cultural presentation was given in May on "Majblommor and their Significance." We made our own mayflower pins and voted on the color choices for next year's flower; we all felt wonderfully Swedish! In June our cultural leaders presented on Midsummer and the Maypole and included a slide show of the

various dances and music. We even learned about differences between the Danish and the Swedes in their Midsummer celebrations. Our Picnic in July at IKEA West Sacramento was a fun time where we enjoyed some Swedish food, beat the heat, and did a little shopping.

Two dear members died this year: Donna Huttner and Wanda Magnuson Nezewich. Both women were true assets to the Vasa Order and made their mark for good on the lodge, its activities, and on our hearts.

SUBMITTED BY CAROL NESEWICH

Svenska Språkhörnan – The Swedish Language Corner

Swedish verb forms: The future tense

English and Swedish have several ways to show that something will take place in the future, since they both lack a proper future tense. Please note that the Swedish and English variants of the future are not synonymous, and that the chart below only gives a rough outline of the usage of the future in Swedish. It is not always easy to tell why one way of expressing a future action is favored instead of another. But since they all convey a clear future sense, you will not have any problems in making yourself understood, regardless of which variant you choose.

Future construction	Swedish	English
kommer att + infinitive: neutral, 'pure' future [very common]	Jag kommer att studera. <i>I come to study.</i>	I will study.
ska (formal: skall) + infinitive: future (neutral, intention)	Jag ska studera. <i>I will study.</i>	I am going to study.
tänker + infinitive: showing intention	Jag tänker studera. <i>I think/intend [to] study.</i>	I am going to study.
using the present tense: future (neutral, intention) [very common]	Jag åker till Stóckhólm nästa vecka. <i>I go to Stockholm next week.</i>	I will go to Stockholm next week.

The passive

All the verbs you have met so far have been active, that is someone or something is doing something. If you want to show that something is being done in English and the person who does it is either not identified or mentioned after the word 'by', you use a form of the verb 'be' together with the past participle:

The car has been repaired.

They were killed in an accident.

We have not been informed by anyone.

This passive construction is very simple to make in Swedish: You just add an -s to the other endings of the verb. The main exception is the present tense, where the final -r disappears before the -s.

Bílen reparérades (instead of: Han reparerade bílen).

The car was repaired. (He repaired the car.)

Skólan ska stängas (instead of: Réktorn ska stänga skólan).

The school is going to be closed. (The headmaster is going to close the school.)

In everyday Swedish an active construction is often preferred to the passive: "De ska stänga skólan" ("They are going to close the school"). It is also very common to use a construction with 'bli' (become) instead, without any significant change in meaning:

Bílen blev reparerad.

Active verbs with a passive ending

There are a few verbs, which, in spite of having this -s form characteristic for the passive, always have an active function. Three of the most common are:

finnas (to be, exist): "Finns det någon mjólk kvar?" ("Is there any milk left?")

hóppas (to hope): "Jag hóppas det" ("I hope it", that is "I hope so.")

mínnsas (to remember): "Jag minns ínte" ("I remember not.")

Reflexive verbs

In the sentence "I wash myself" English uses the pronoun 'myself' to show that the action is reflexive, that I m the object of the washing. Some Swedish verbs are likewise used together with a special pronoun, which is identical with the objective forms of the personal pronouns (see chapter 1), with one exception: The reflexive pronoun for the persons 'he', 'she', 'it', and 'they' is always 'sig' (in spite of its spelling pronounced like the English word 'say').

Jag tvättar mig (mej). *I wash myself.*

Du tvättar dig (dej). *You wash yourself.*

Han tvättar sig (sej). *He washes himself.*

Hon tvättar sig (sej). *She washes herself.*

Den/det tvättar sig (sej). *It washes itself.*

Vi tvättar oss. *We wash ourselves.*

Ni tvättar er. *You wash yourselves.*

De tvättar sig (sej). *They wash themselves.*

The use of verbs with reflexive pronouns is more frequent in Swedish than in English.

Group 1: -ar verbs					
Infinitive	Imperative	Present	Past	Supine	Past Participle
berätta (to) tell	Berätta! <i>Tell!</i>	berättar (I) tell	berättade (I) told	berättat (I have) told	(är) berättad berättat berättade (It is/they are) told
börja (to) begin	Börja! <i>Begin!</i>	börjar (I) begin	började (I) began	(har) börjat (I have) begun	(är) [på]börjad, [på]börjat, [på] började (It is/they are) started

Group 1: -ar verbs (continued)

fråga (to) ask	Fråga! <i>Ask!</i>	frågar (I) ask	frågade (I) asked	frågat (I have) asked	(är) [till]frågad, [till]frågat, [till] frågade (It is/they are) asked
lämna (to) leave	Lämna (den)! <i>Leave (it)!</i>	lämnar (I) leave	lämnade (I) left	lämnat (I have) left	(är) lämnad, lämnat, lämnade (It is/they are) left
pråta (to) talk [colloquial]	Pråta! <i>Talk!</i>	pråtar (I) talk	pråtade (I) talked	pråtat (I have) talked	
tåla (to) speak, talk	Tåla! <i>Speak!/Talk!</i>	tålar (I) speak/talk	tålade (I) spoke/ talked	tålat (I have) spoken	[till]tålad, [till] tålat, [till]tålade (It is/they are) addressed
titta (to) look	Titta! <i>Look!</i>	tittar (I) look	tittade (I) looked	tittat (I have) looked	(är) [út]tittad, [út] tittat, [út]tittade (It is/they are) stared at
visa (to) show	Visa! <i>Show!</i>	visar (I) show	visade (I) showed	visat (I have) shown	(är) visad, visat, visade (It is/they are) shown
vänta (to) wait	Vänta! <i>Wait!</i>	väntar (I) wait	väntade (I) waited	väntat (I have) waited	(är) väntad, väntat, väntade (It is/they are) expected
öppna (to) open	Öppna! <i>Open!</i>	öppnar (I) open	öppnade (I) opened	öppnat (I have) opened	(är) öppnad, öppnat, öppnade (It is/they are) opened

Group 2 A: er-verbs

Infinitive	Imperative	Present	Past	Supine	Past Participle
behöva (to) need	Behöv! <i>Need!</i>	behöver (I) need	behövde (I) needed	(har) behövt (I have) needed	(är) behövd, behövt, behövda (It is/they are) needed
följa (to) follow	Följ (mig)! <i>Follow (me)!</i>	följer (I) follow	följde (I) followed	(har) följt (I have) followed	(är) följd, följt, följda (It is/they are) followed
höra (to) hear	Hör! <i>Hear!</i>	hörr (I) hear	höorde (I) heard	(har) hört (I have) heard	(är) hörd, hört, hörd (It is/they are) heard
känna (to) feel,(to) know [someone]	Känn! <i>Feel (it)!</i>	känner (I) feel, know	kände (I) felt, knew	(har) känt (I have) felt, known	(är) känd, känt, kända (It is/they are) felt, known
léva (to) live	Lev! <i>Live!</i>	léver (I) live	lévde (I) lived	(har) levt (I have) lived	(är) [út]lévad, [út]lévat, [út] lévade (It is/they are) decrepit
lära [sig] (to) teach reflexive: to learn]	Lär [dig]! <i>Teach!</i> [reflexive: Learn]!	lärr [mig] (I) teach [reflexive: (I) learn]	lärdde [mig] (I) taught [reflexive: (I) learned]	(har) lärt [mig] (I have) taught [reflexive: (I) have learned]	(är) lärd, lärt, lärd (It is/they are) taught/learned
ställa (to) put	Ställ (den där)! <i>Put (it there)!</i>	ställer (I) put	ställde (I) put	(har) ställt (I have) put	(är) ställd, ställt, ställd (It is/they are) put

Group 2 B: er-verbs					
Infinitive	Imperative	Present	Past	Supine	Past Participle
försö́ka (to) try	Försö́k! Try!	försö́ker (I) try	försö́kte (I) tried	(har) försö́kt (I have) tried	
hjálpa (to) help	Hjálp! Help!	hjálper (I) help	hjálpte (I) helped	(har) hjálpt (I have) helped	(är) hjálpt, hjálpt, hjálpta (It is/they are) helped
köpa (to) buy	Köp! Buy!	köper (I) buy	köpte (I) bought	(har) köpt (I have) bought	(är) köpt, köpt, köpta (It is/they are) bought
lása (to) read	Läs! Read!	läser (I) read	läste (I) read	(har) läst (I have) read	(är) läst, läst, lästa (It is/they are) read
ta óka (to) have an opinion about something, (to) think	Tyck! Have an opinion (about something)!	ta óker (I) have an opinion (about something), (I) think	ta ókte (I) had an opinion (about something), I thought	(har) tyckt (I have) had an opinion (about something), (I have) thought	(är) ómt ókt, ómt ókt, ómt ókta (It is/they are) well-liked
tá nka (to) think	Tänk! Think!	tá nker (I) think	tá nkte (I) thought	(har) tänkt (I have) thought	(är) tänkt, tänkt, tá nкта (It is/they are) thought
á ka (to) go	Ák! Go!	á ker (I) go	á kte (I) went	(har) ákt (I have) gone	

Group 3: -r verbs					
Infinitive	Imperative	Present	Past	Supine	Past Participle
bo (to) live in (as in reside, dwell)	Bo! Reside!	bor (I) reside	bódde (I) resided	bott (I have) resided	(är) bebódd, bebótt, bebódda (It is/they are) inhabited
tro (to) believe, think	Tro! Believe!	tror (I) believe, think	tródde (I) believed, thought	trott (I have) believed, thought	(är) trodd, trott, tródda (It is/they are) believed

Group 4: irregular verbs					
Infinitive	Imperative	Present	Past	Supine	Past Participle
bli (to) become	Bli! (Become!)	blir (I) become	blev (I) became	(har) blivitt (I have) become	(är) blíven, blívet, blívna (It is/they are) become [rarely used]
bá ra (to) carry	Bär! Carry!	bär (I) carry	bar (I) carried	(har) búrit (I have) carried	(är) búren, búret, búrna (It is/they are) carried
dra (to) draw, pull	Dra! Draw! Pull!	drar (I) draw, pull	drog (I) drew, pulled	(har) drágit (I have) drawn, pulled	(är) drágen, dráget, drágn (It is/they are) drawn, pulled
finnas [passive form, but active meaning] (to) exist, be		finns (it) exists, there is/are	fanns (it) existed, there was/were	(har) fúnnitt (it has) existed, there has/have been	(är) fúnne, fúnnet, fúnna (It is/they are) found
fá (to) receive, be allowed to, have to		får (I) receive, am allowed to, have to	fick (I) received, was allowed to, had to	(har) fátt (I have) received, have been allowed to, have had to	
förstå (to) understand	Förstå! Understand!	förstå r (I) understand	förstód (I) understood	(har) forstå tt (I have) understood	(är) forstå dd, förstå tt, förstå dda (It is/they are) understood
ge (to) give	Ge! Give!	ger (I) give	gav (I) gave	(har) gett, gívit (I have) given	(är) gíven, gívet, gívna (It is/they are) given

Group 4: irregular verbs (continued)					
Infinitive	Imperative	Present	Past	Supine	Past Participle
gå (to) walk, leave	Gå! Walk! Leave!	går (I) walk, leave	gick (I) walked, left	(har) gått (I have) walked, left	(är) gå ngen, gå nget, gå ngna (It is/they are) gone by, past
göra (to) do, make	Gör! Do! Make!	gör (I) do, make	gjorde (I) did, made	(har) gjort (I have) done, made	(är) gjord, gjort, gjörda (It is/they are) done, made
ha (to) have	Ha! Have!	har (I) have	hade (I) had	(har) haft (I have) had	
kómma (to) come	Kom! Come!	kómmer (I) come	kom (I) came	(har) kómmit (I have) come	(är) [vá l] kómme, [vá l] kómme, [vá l] kómna (It is/they are) welcome
kúnna (to) be able to		kan (I) can	kúnde (I) could	(har) kunnat (I have) been able to	
lígga (to) be lying down, be situated	Ligg! Lie (down)!	ligger (it) lies, is situated	låg (it) lied, was situated	(har) légat (it has) been lying, been situated	(är) [förl]élad, [förl]élat, [förl] légna (It is/they are) antiquated
lá gga (to) put, lay	Lägg! Put! Lay!	lä gger (I) put, lay	lá de (colloquial: la) (I) put, laid	(har) lagt (I have) put, laid	(är) lagd, lagt, lá gda (It is/they are) put, laid
se (to) see	Se! See!	ser (I) see	såg (I) saw	(har) sett (I have) seen	(är) sedd, sett, sédda (It is/they are) seen
sítta (to) sit	Sitt! Sit!	sítter (I) sit	satt (I) sat	(har) súttit (I have) been sitting	(är) [néd]súttin, [néd]súttet, [néd] súttina (It is/they are) saggin [only used about furniture]

Group 4: irregular verbs (continued)					
Infinitive	Imperative	Present	Past	Supine	Past Participle
skriva (to) write	Skriv! Write!	skriver (I) write	skrev (I) wrote	(har) skrivitt (I have) written	(är) skriven, skrivet, skrivna (It is/they are) written
stå (to) stand	Stå! Stand!	står (I) stand	stod (I) stood	(har) stått (I have) stood	(är) [úpp] stå nden, [úpp] stå ndet, [úpp] stå ndna (It is/they are) resurrected
sá tta [sig] (to) put [reflexive: to sit down]	Sätt [dig]! Put! [refl: Sit down!]	sá tter [mig] (I) put [refl: (I) sit down]	sátte [mig] (I) put [refl: (I) sat down]	(har) satt [mig] (I have) put [refl: (I have) seated myself]	(är) satt, satt, sátta (It is/they are) put
ta (to) take	Ta! Take!	tar (I) take	tog (I) took	(har) tágit (I have) taken	(är) tágen, táget, tágn (It is/they are) taken
vára (to) be	Var! Be!	är (I) am	var (I) was	(har) várit (I have) been	
véta (to) know	Vet! Know!	vet (I) know	vi sste (I) knew	(har) vétat (I have) known	
vílja (to) want, wish	(Vill!) Want!	vill (I) want, wish	vílle (I) wanted, wished	(har) vélat (I have) wanted, wished	



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS



God Jul och Gott Nytt År
tillönskas alla Vasasyskon
Logen Höganäs nr 634

*May the special warmth that is
Christmas be with you always.*

God Jul och Gott Nytt År
tillönskas alla Vasasyskon
i USA, Kanada och Sverige
Knut Rosenkvist, DHM DL Nr 20
Maj-Lis Friedman

God Jul och Gott Nytt År!
to all our Vasa friends
and to our sister lodge
Mälardrottningen Nr. 563
Nobel Lodge #184
Portland, Oregon

God Jul och Gott Nytt År önskar
Ulf och Ingegerd Alderlöf
LL Ronneby Nr 630
MEB Sweden

Logen Ronneby nr 630
önskar sina Vasasyskon och vänloger
En God Vasa Jul och ett Gott Nytt Vasa År

God Jul och Gott Nytt År
From all at
Carl XVI Gustaf Lodge No. 716
Dallas, Texas

God Jul och Gott Nytt År önskar
Berit och Hans Bogren
Logen Höganäs nr 634

Logen Kärnan nr 608,
Helsingborg önskar
GOD JUL OCH GOTT NYTT ÅR 2015

God Jul och Gott Nytt År
Svea Lodge #296
Erie, Pennsylvania

God Jul och Gott Nytt År önskar
Maureen och Göte Bengtsson
SLKL-Sverige
Logen Småland nr 618

Alla syskon tillönskas en riktigt God
jul och Gott Nytt År
Tack för året som gått.
Olle o Marie Wickström
DM, SLD

God Jul och Gott Nytt År
tillönskas alla Vasasyskon
Göran och Catherine
Bringselius Nilsson
PS LL nr 678 och FDM/SLD DL nr
20

God Jul och Gott Nytt År önskar
Olle och Marianne Klavebäck
Logen Westervik 679

God Jul och Gott Nytt År
tillönskas alla Vasasyskon
Anita och Karl-Axel Bengtsson
Logen Höganäs nr 634

God Jul och Gott Nytt År
tillönskas alla Vasavänner
Bertil och Ann-Margreth Ericsson
Logen Ronneby nr 630

God Jul and Merry Christmas
to all our Vasa friends from
SVEA LODGE #296
Erie, Pennsylvania

God Jul och Gott Nytt År!
from
OSCARS BORG LODGE #172
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

God Jul och Gott Nytt År
tillönskas alla Vasavänner
i USA, Kanada och Sverige
Gunnar och Siw Mossberg
PGLMEB

THE GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE (SWEDISH)

KÄRA VASASYSKON,
Hösten är redan här. Dagarna blir kortare och helgerna är snar här. Inom Vasa innebär det att vi kommer att fira våra traditioner, inklusive Lucia och jul, och åtnjuta den mat och dryck som vi förknippar med detta. Jag ser redan fram emot lussekatter, glögg, lutfisk, sill och julskinka bara för att nämna några av säsongens godbitar. Yummm.

Du kanske har sett det nyligen på webben publicerade finansiella specialnumret av Vasa Star. Om inte så hittar du en länk till det på vår hemsida www.vasaorder.com. Det numret innehåller fullständigt reviderade finansiella rapporter för räkenskapsåret som slutade den 31 December 2013 för både Storlogen och Vasa Arkivet. Detta är första gången under min tid som Vasamedlem som jag kan minnas att båda organisationerna har granskats av en revisionsfirma som inte har någon anknytning till Vasa. Med det har vi nu ett "finansiellt ansikte" att visa upp för världen. Detta har varit en stort arbete, främst för vår Storlogens kassör (GT) Keith Hanlon. Jag vill också passa på att påpeka att GT Keith med stor framgång har kvalificerat Storlogen till Guidestar Bronz

Seal nivå (nivå 1) och Vasa Arkivet till Silver Seal nivå (nivå 2). Han arbetar, tillsammans med flera andra ledamöter i Storlogens ER, för närvarande med att få båda organisationerna till Gold Seal nivå. GuideStar är en stor web-baserad ideell organisation som är dedikerad till att effektivisera donationer till välgörenhet genom att erbjuda lättillgänglig ideell information. Genom dem är det också möjligt att söka donationer, men åtskilligt ytterligare arbete behövs innan det blir möjligt. Detta är en av många saker som möjliggjorts tack vare de reviderade boksluten för 2013 tillsammans med de revisor granskade boksluten för 2012 (även dessa finns på vår webbsida). Om du får tillfälle tacka då gärna GT Keith för allt arbete han lägger ner.

Storlogens stipendieprogram för högskolestuderande delade i år ut nio \$1,000 stipendier. Mer än hälften av dessa var skänkta från distrikts- och lokal-loger medan resten finansierades av Storlogens utbildningsfond. Dessutom delade vi ut fyra stipendier till Sjölundens två-veckors språkläger. Dessa stipendier inkluderar reseersättning och värderas till cirka \$2.500 styck. Vi erbjöd fem

av dessa stipendier, men fick dessvärre bara fyra kvalificerade ansökningar. Till nästa år ber jag er att uppmuntra de yngre medlemmarna i familjen att ansöka om stipendier till högskolestudier eller till Sjölund. Försäkra dig om att ungdomarna blir Vasa medlemmar i tid för att vara berättigade till högskolestipendierna. De måste ha varit medlem i ett helt år senast den 15 februari. Det är dags för dem att gå med NU för att vara berättigade till stipendier 2016. För att vara berättigad till Sjölund skall sökanden eller en förälder eller en far- eller mor-förälder ha varit medlem i minst två år. Se mer information i detta nummer av Vasastjärnan eller besök vår hemsida www.vasaorder.com.

Som jag nämnde i mitt förra meddelande, hölls Storlogemötet i Rye NY 4:e juli veckan. Storlogens sekreterare (GS) Joan Graham arbetar, i skrivande stund, med att slutföra "Rekord of Proceedings" (protokollet) för mötet och det blir i början på november tillgängligt för distribution. Hon publicerar också en sammanfattning av protokollet i detta nummer av Vasastjärnan. GS Joan arbetar också med att färdigställa den (engelska)

reviderade författningen.

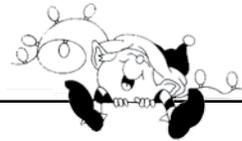
Du kanske redan har fått det årliga "Ever Living Julgran" fundraising som skickats ut av Vasa Arkivet, där du har möjlighet att memorialize en vän eller nära anhörig som gått bort under året. Detta är inte bara för Vasa medlemmar utan vem du än vill minnas. Jag uppmanar er att ge generöst till denna kampanj.

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

I SANNING OCH ENIGHET,
TORE KELLGREN, GRAND MASTER



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS



God Jul och Gott Nytt År
tillönskas alla Vasasyskon
Agneta och Bo Västerstjärna
DS - DL Nr 20

God Jul och Gott Nytt År!
to all our Vasa friends
and to our sister lodge
Mälardrottningen Nr. 563
Nobel Lodge #184
Portland, Oregon

*God Jul och
Gott Nytt År*

**Vasa Order of America
Grand Lodge Executive Board**

Grand Master Tore Kellgren
Vice Grand Master Art Bjorkner
Grand Secretary Joanie Graham
Grand Treasurer Keith Hanlon
Vice Grand Secretary Lee-Ann Hurtibise
MEB-Eastern Region Jack Hanright
MEB-Midwest Region Bruce Elfvin
MEB-Western Region Jeff Klein
MEB-Canada Fae Doty
MEB-Sweden Ulf Alderlöf

God Jul och Gott Nytt År

to all our Vasa friends from
District Lodge Pennsylvania #9

Margaret Schueman – District Master
Cheryl Brown – Vice District Master
Sharen Swanson Tizzano – District Secretary
Richard Erickson - District Treasurer
Bo Carlsson - Member Executive Board
Arne Dunhem - Member Executive Board
Julie Olson – District Cultural Leader
Linda J. Smith – District Historian

Distriktslogen Södra Sverige Nr 20

God Jul och Gott Nytt År

tillönskas alla Vasasyskon

Executive Board Members:

Olle Wickström • Karl Axel Bengtsson
Catherine Bringselius Nilsson
Agneta Västerstjärna • Bengt Åberg
Alf Nilsson • Hans-Åke Rytterdahl
Maureen Bengtsson • Anita Nilsson

From Kumla (a small Swedish town) to the White House



(Left to right) Official representatives SAY 2014. Göran Nilsson and Catherine Bringselius Nilsson, Vasa Order of America, Eva and Jonas Hafström, former Swedish ambassador to the US, Björn Lyrvall, present Swedish ambassador to the US and his wife Madeleine. / The Golden Plaque (insignia of the award). / SAY 2014, C. Fred Bergsten. Photo Karin Nylund Regeringskansliet

Dr. C. Fred Bergsten, Senior Fellow and Director Emeritus, and founding director of the Peterson Institute for International Economics, is the recipient of the Swedish American of the Year (SAY) award 2014.

The two districts of the Vasa Order of America in Sweden choose, annually since 1960, an American with Swedish roots, to represent Sweden America. The recognition reminds us of the many emigrated Swedes and Swedish American descendants in North America.

"It is a great honor to be selected from the six million Swedish Americans for this recognition," said Dr. Bergsten.

The public celebration of recognition took place on Minnesota Day, which is remembered in Ljuder, Sweden, known from Vilhelm Moberg's much appreciated novel, *The Emigrants*. Central to the festivities was

Växjö, near Ljuder and its surroundings in Småland. The program started in the church with a Swedish American service. Beloved hymns framed the service, which was in both Swedish and English. Some people were wearing authentic Swedish folk costumes.

The chairman of the SAY Committee, Catherine Bringselius Nilsson, introduced SAY 2014 and presented the motivation for the recognition of Dr. Bergsten. She then asked Dr. Bergsten to uncover the board with the names of the Swedish Americans of the Year, now completed with his name. He expressed his gratefulness to the Vasa Order of America for the award.

In his acceptance speech, Dr. Bergsten vividly described his life of being the grandchild of a Swedish emigrant — his grandfather left Kumla in 1886 to become a farmer in Kansas — then growing up as the

son of a pastor, and ending up as an expert economic advisor in Washington, D.C. who works closely with White House administrations and governments all over the world. Dr. Bergsten was recently reappointed by President Barack Obama to the President's Advisory Committee for Trade Policy and Negotiations, to which he was first named in 2010.

During the official Vasa Order banquet at PM & Vänner Restaurant in Växjö, Dr. Bergsten was presented the insignia of the award, the golden plaque and diploma, along with the standards of honor from the Vasa Order districts of Sweden and the official gift of the districts: a pair of magnificent crystal candleholders with the emblem of the Vasa Order engraved. The Linnéa Quartet performed national hymns and Swedish folk songs.

The following days in Växjö included a tour to the Kingdom of Crystal, Kosta (established 1742) and the spectacular Kosta Art Hotel, dinner with the governor of Kronoberg County, Kristina Alsér, and a welcome dinner with the community of Växjö. Another part of the program was a seminar at Linnaeus University, a lecture at Stockholm School of Economics and the Stockholm Institute of Transition Economics on the topic "Currency Wars and the International Monetary System."

The Foreign Ministry showed Dr. Bergsten its tribute by giving an official luncheon. The final event during the celebration week was an invitation to Dr. Bergsten and his wife Jenny to attend the 25th anniversary dinner of the Vilhelm Moberg Society.

CATHERINE BRINGSELIUS NILSSON
CHAIRMAN SAY COMMITTEE 2014

IN MEMORIAM

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

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

ARIZONA

LUCILLE QUIST JEPSON was born on January 6, 1918 in Los Angeles, CA to Swedish immigrant parents, Claus and Signe Quist. She was a VASA member of North Star #106 in Los Angeles for many years and became a dual member after joining the Scandia Lodge #728 in Prescott, AZ where she was living when she died. Lucille is survived by two brothers Arthur and John Quist, also North Star #106 members. She leaves behind three children, Ted Jeppson, Kenny Jeppson and Connie Rinaldi, also members of the North Star Lodge #106. She passed away on October 13, 2014.

CANADA

MILTON CLARENCE FAWCETT, 82, passed away on October 20, 2014, at Vasa Park, Pigeon Lake, Alberta, after a brave battle with cancer. He is survived by his loving wife, Virginia; son, Lorne; daughter, Lois (Greg); grandchildren, Brent and Nicole (Kevin); three Great-Grandchildren (Ryan, Dylan and Jackson); brothers Dwayne (Linda), Norman (Barbara) Russell (Greg); Sister-in-law, Pat; sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law and many nieces and nephews; as well as many extended family members and friends. Milton was predeceased by his parents, Clarence and Ida Fawcett; sister, Marjorie and her husband Cameron Fulton; and brother, Vernon. Milton joined Local Lodge Skandia No. 549 on February 4, 1960. On June 25, 2005, Skandia presented Milton with a Certificate of Recognition for his faithful and devoted service to Skandia Lodge.

CALIFORNIA

HAROLD REID EARLS passed away in Van Nuys, CA on October 2, 2014 at age 65. He was born September 19, 1949 in Los Angeles, CA and joined North Star Lodge #106 on

November 26, 1974. He is survived by his mother Evelyn Earls, brother Richard Earls, sister Kathleen Corrigan and many nieces and nephews.

ILLINOIS

RUTH S. PHILIP, 86, passed away August 26, 2014 in Normal, IL. She was born Jan. 1, 1928 in Elwood Park, IL. She enjoyed trips to Norway and embraced her Norwegian heritage. She joined Viljan Lodge #349, Batavia, IL on Sept. 28, 2006. She is survived by two children, one grandchild and one great grandchild.

JOEL F. SCHROCK, 76, passed away September 6, 2014 in Burnsville, MN. He was born June 29, 1938 in Goshen, IN. He joined Viljan Lodge #349, Batavia, IL on March 22, 1990 where he was an active member. He is survived by his wife, Joan (Dahlquist), three children and four grandchildren.

RUTH "PEG" MOLZAN, 79, passed away on July 9, 2014 in Aurora, IL. She was born on October 25, 1934 in Chicago, IL. On May 27, 2004 she joined Viljan Lodge #349, Batavia, IL where she was an active member for 10 years. She is survived by her husband Arthur, three daughters and four grandchildren.

WASHINGTON

CARL ERICKSON, a member of SVEA Lodge #469 in Longview, WA for 59 years, passed away on October 30, 2013. He was born on February 12, 1919 in Petio, Sweden to Carl Bernhard and Emma Erickson. He had been a member of the Swedish Army. Carl is survived by a son, Gregor Erickson (Theresa), two grandsons and three great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife of 56 years, Anne-Marie.

WASHINGTON, DC

PATRICIA A. PEARSON of Alexandria, VA died on January 18, 2013 following a long battle with cancer. Born in Rockford, IL on March 10, 1946, Trish is survived by her husband Robert, a son and a daughter, and two grandchildren. She considered her most important career to be that of wife and mother. Trish was a member of Drott Lodge since 1987.

STEN R. RUNIUS, 90, passed away on May 18, 2014 after a brief illness. A WWII Army veteran born in Quincy, MA, he returned there and stayed until 1967, when he moved to Washington, D.C. and worked for two different federal agencies. After

retirement he moved to Rockland, ME. A member of Drott Lodge since 1973, Sten is survived by a son and two grandchildren.

WISCONSIN

JIM MOXON lost his battle to cancer on August 5, 2014. He was only 72 years old. He was survived by Birgit, whom he married in 1965, and their two children Ingrid (Mark) Pfeiffer and Andrew (Paula) Moxon, and their four grandchildren. Birgit and Jim joined Linde Lodge #492 in 1980. They were both always active — teaching Swedish folkdances in Skansen Children's Club or performing with Linde-Kipakat Dancers. They also presented several interesting travel program for the lodge.

MIRIAM HENDRICKSON (Niemi), 95, was reunited with her husband George in September 2014. Survived by children, grand and great-grandchildren and others. She was elementary school teacher for 30 years, a member of the Finnish-American Society, Nordic Council and Linde Lodge. She taught dancing until age 91, and taught dancing at the Salolampi Finnish Language Village which she visited for 40 years, including 2014.