



Coming Events

March 4 - 6:00 P.M. Bar open. Drinks are 50 cents. 6:30 Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner. Price of the dinner is \$3.00. Diedre Dahlberg is Chairman and her committee is planning a very good dinner. Eleanor Vine & her committee are in charge of dessert time and Irish coffee will be available.

March 7-8 Annual Rummage Sale, 604 12th St. Please bring your items to the next meeting if you can't bring them to the rummage sale. Call Forsties and Axberg's for more information and if you can help--we need your help.

March 19 - Casino Night at Norway Hall. Happy Hour starts at 7 and playing begins at 8 until 11. Lennart Andersson and Charles Linn are in charge of this event. Ladies please volunteer to make sandwiches - let Margaret Linn know if you can. All kinds of help is needed to make this a success. Bring your friends.

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At the last meeting Arlie Veis brought out the fact that the sick benefit fund has enough funds to carry them so it was voted to cease collecting sick benefit dues from our members effective in 1984.

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The charter was draped in memory of our departed member Chester Nelson at our last meeting.

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It was reported that Hank and Muriel Hjersman were ill and that Hank may require surgery.

Lars Oberg has been having difficulty with his hip and Ruth Lundberg has an injured knee.

We were happy to see Joyce Johnson following ear surgery.

We just learned that Estrid Doscher broke her arm. Hope she has a speedy recovery.

Congratulations to Jeff and Cheryl Stafford upon the birth of a baby and to the grandparents, Lil and Donn Stafford.

Congratulations to Darlene Palmer who also has another grandchild.

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The next district golf tournament will be held on April 10th at Svenson Park Golf Course, 6803 Alexandria Place, Stockton, CA. Send your reservations to Eric Johnson of Nord Lodge. See the secretary for more information.

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Margaret Carlson reports that several items are missing from our storage cupboard. Dish towels, 2 sheets used for tablecloths and several clear plastic trays. Perhaps someone has forgotten to bring these back to the lodge. Please check.

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Change of address for Kenneth & Peggie Carlson: 8370 Sunset Blvd. Fair Oaks, CA 95628. Their phone is: 967-9248.



Stamp collectors with an interest in Swedish stamps and Swedish and American history will find March 24, 1983, a significant date. On this day USA and Sweden will issue a stamp with the same motif on the same day.

A portrait of Benjamin Franklin and the Swedish official insignia will be pictured together and the denominations will be Sr kr. 2.70 and US 20 cents. The text, "Friendship and trade treaty between Sweden and USA 1783" "Vanskaps - och handelstraktat mellan Sverige och USA 1783."

In addition an illustrated First Day letter (FDC) with both stamps and respective countries' FDC insignia, will be issued.

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VASALOPPET (The great Vasa ski race)  
by Ted Olson

On the first Sunday in March each year the world's greatest cross country ski race is run in Dalarna. This is the Vasaloppet (Vasa run). It covers 85 kilometers (53 miles) from Salen on the Norwegian border to the historic city of Mora. In recent years there have been more than 12,000 competitors from Sweden and other countries.

This ski race commemorates an important episode in the career of Gustav Erickson Vasa. In 1521 he had attempted without success to raise support from the free peasants of Dalarna for revolt against the Danish King Christian II. Discouraged, and in danger of his life, he left on skis for possible refuge in Norway. In the meantime the dalekarlar received confirmation of the Stockholm blood-bath and decided to support Gustav. Two fast skiers were sent to follow and bring him back to Mora; they overtook him near Salen. Gustav's return to Mora and the support of the dalekarlar was the turning point which led to eventual victory.

The best winning time in Vasaloppet was 4 hours, 5 minutes and 49 seconds in 1979. In 1977 King Carl Gustaf competed. His time was 8 hours, 12 minutes and 41 seconds. He was the first king since Gustav Vasa to make the run. This was 456 years later.

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MARCH BIRTHDAYS

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|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1-Astrid Horyza    | 17-Clarence King     |
| 2-Eleanora Wessman | 17-Donn Stafford     |
| 5-Ellen Herting    | 20-Brian Holm        |
| 6-Berthell Nelson  | 20-Helen Jenson      |
| 8-Jack Doscher     | 23-Harry Taylor      |
| 8-Eugenie Sholl    | 24-Gerda Anderson    |
| 13-Hank Hjersman   | 24-Faye Powell       |
| 15-Linda Johnson   | 29-Kjell Hokansson   |
| 15-Ruth Lundberg   | 30-Norman Cederquist |
| 17-Kenneth Carlson |                      |

Happy Birthday!

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Chairman's message by Bernie Lundberg

Let's support the lodge functions that are coming up. We need all the members to make it successful.