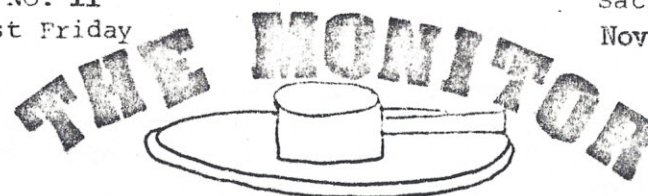


VASA ORDER OF AMERICA  
Monitor Lodge No 218  
Vol. 9 NO. 11  
Meets 1st Friday

Wisteria Hall  
3830 "U" Street  
Sacramento, CA.  
November, 1985

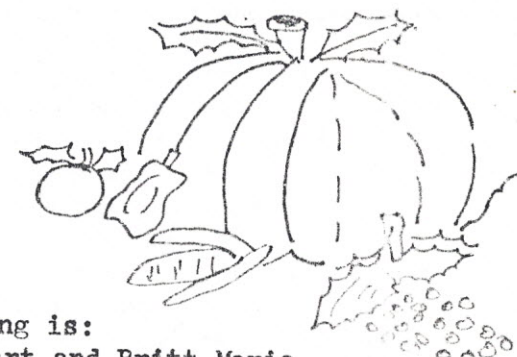


## November

Our November meeting is Friday November 1st....it's just a regular business meeting and will start 7:30 sharp.

On the committee for refreshments after the meeting is:  
Lars and Iris Ostlund Leanart and Britt Marie Andersson, Charlie and Margaret Linn and Martha Fredrickson

If you wish bring your food you are making for the Smörgåsbord that night and any Bazaar items you have, so they can get priced and so on.



\*\*\*\*\*

## REMINDER

Our Smörgåsbord.....our one big money making event for the year. It's Saturday November 2nd..... bar opens 5:30 (Ole and Sven, our famous bar tenders will be on hand again) and we will start eating at 6:30.

There will be Swedish food galore at its best of course. Tickets are really going this year....because where else can you get a meal like that and a dance to live music for only \$7.00 if you are a member and bring food or \$10.00 for guests and non-members.

We have the same band as last year and you know how good they are, and we have two beautiful pieces of crystal from Sweden to raffle off.

Come out and have the time of your life.....bring a prospective member, but please call Margaret Carlson at 457-7376 or Audrey Fales at 451-4049 for your reservation. You can pay for your ticket at the door. DON'T FORGET.

Margaret Carlson, News Editor  
Monitor Lodge  
5110 - 42nd Street  
Sacramento, CA. 95820

## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

I appreciate your confidence in electing me to a second term as Chairman. I also appreciate the current officers who accepted a second term. The offices of the secretaries, financial secretaries and treasurer are demanding and time consuming. We don't say thank you enough to those who willingly take on these responsibilities.

At the last meeting there was a partial report of the recent membership seminar. While some of the recommendations require action at the Grand Lodge level there are many we can and plan to implement. Among these are to increase our visibility—to let the community know about the Vasa Order, increasing the emphasis on culture and heritage in our programs, and shortening our business meetings. In my own case I knew about Vasa most of my life. It is only a few years ago that I was asked to join and became a member. Talk up Monitor Lodge to prospective members.

Birgitta Wright, cultural leader, was unable to be with us at the last meeting. She would have reminded us that Saint Birgitta's day is October 8. That is a special day for all the charming ladies who are named Birgitta, Birgit, Britt, Britty, or even Bridget.

Remember our Smörgåsbord on November 2. We will also have our country store bazaar that evening. Bring your donations of baked goods, craft items, produce etc.

*Ted Olson*

\*\*\*\*\*

The meaning of "UFF DA".....UFF DA is not in the dictionary, but for norwegians it is an all-purpose expression covering a variety of situations such as:

UFF DA is.....getting swished in the face with a cow's wet tail

## THE FLOWER KING (1707-1778)

(Note—so much of Sweden's history is composed of the story of Sweden's kings and Sweden's wars, we will digress to a personage who left more of a heritage than most of Sweden's kings).

The world knows him readily by his latin name of Carolus Linnaeus. His father was a minister and amateur botanist who chose the name Linnæus, the latinized form of the Swedish name for the linden tree, when it became fashionable for educated persons to select a family name. Many chose a latin form, these still exist in old Swedish names such as Silvius and Sibellius.

The boy shared his father's interest in botany and wanted to become a naturalist. At that time the only means to a scientific education was through the study of medicine. He enrolled first at the University of Lund but found no satisfaction so he transferred to Uppsala. Here he came to the attention of the dean, Olaf Celsius, and the botanist, Olaf Rudbeck. They encouraged his interest in plants as he continued his medical studies. They also convinced the Academy of Science to send him on an expedition to Lapland in 1732.

Lapland was admittedly part of Sweden but had not been explored. Linnaeus returned with reports on mineralogy and ethnology as well as biology. In the meantime he had developed his ideas of the classification of plants according to the parts of the flower. This was first published in 1735.

In the 1700's expeditions from all over the world were bringing in new plants to the botanical gardens of Europe. There was a real need for a system to classify these discoveries. There were rich amateur botanists who wondered what they had in their gardens. (to be continued)

Ted Olson

## ALTERNATIVE, INFORMAL RITUAL

Proposed by Arizona Dist. Lodge 21 to present to the 31st Grand Lodge Conv. next June in New York. Reactions and suggestions from local lodges is desired by early Jan. It is the hope of the Arizona Dist. Lodge that the alternative ritual will be attractive to new and younger members. If this is adopted, it would be possible to bring a prospective member to the meeting. The Alternative Ritual could be used at some meetings and the present, more formal ritual at others; individual lodges could choose.

The Order of Business would eliminate the usage of "brother", "sister", "my friends" and actual names used.

Except for some modernization in the choice of words and some relaxation of formality, (such as "salute" and giving of the Password) the form of the Order of Business follows closely the one presently used.

Comment of Monitor Secretary: The advantages I see in this alternative Ritual adoption are:

1. A lodge can choose the formal or less formal Ritual.
2. A choice of say, three informal (Ritual) meetings a year gives a lodge the chance to bring prospective members (perhaps a spouse) to a meeting.
3. The occasional use of the informal Ritual might be quite attractive to young prospective members.

The disadvantage, if the Alternative Ritual were used at every meeting, might be a loss of some tradition in the format of the meeting, tend to become too much of a social gathering, and detract from conducting the necessary business.

At our December Meeting please be ready to discuss, endorse, or reject the Alternative Ritual.

\*\*\*\*\*

PLEASE do not discard your old "Vasa Star" save them for Audrey Fales, especially your 1985 ones. Bring them to our next meeting, she will be there.

\*\*\*\*\*

LUCKY winners on our door prize at the smörgåsbord was Lars Ostlund on the candy dish from Finland and Lucy Dahlberg vase from Sweden. Sure glad our own members were the lucky ones.



## SPECIAL EVENTS TO NOTE

All of our officers will be installed Saturday, January 18th at Wisteria Hall.

We will begin at 1:30 with salad and sandwiches, and Reno Lodge will be joining us.

Our Past District Masters Club will do the installing. Please keep this day open and plan now to attend, as we don't want to have to install anyone after this date.

Any one may attend, you don't have to be an officer.

\*\*\*\*\*

Swedish Christmas Faire at St Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco at the corner of Gough and Gary Street. Saturday November 30th from 10:00 to 5:00. Admission \$2.00 for adults and children under 12 only 50 cents. It is sponsored by the Swedish Women's Educational Ass'n. There will be all kinds of hand made Christmas items, entertainment, food glogg etc, etc.

\*\*\*\*\*

### DIRECTORY CHANGE

Mr. and Mrs. Anton Thorsen  
7540 Maple Leaf Lane  
Sacramento, CA. 95828  
phone - 682-5607

Kathy Goldberry  
9201 Opal Crest Crt.  
Elk Grove, CA. 95624  
phone-685-4063

A COUPLE OF YOKES.....

Then there was the Swede who complained "Yust ven I finally learned to say yelly day started calling it jam"

"You know" said Olle "I got a real good reference from de boss at my last job"

"Really?" said Sven

"Ya, he wrote, if you get Ollie to verk for you, you'll be lucky"

ATTENTION  
PLEASE

Officers, please remember Annual Reports are due in January, 1986. This is an early warning, so you can be thinking about it during the upcoming rush of Holidays.

Committee Chairmen, please prepare a short, written report to file with the Secretary. Mention those who served on your committee, if possible. Those who have Blue Folders, just make a carbon copy for the Secretary. Thank you. Blue Folders should be brought to the January meeting to pass on to the next Committee Chairman.



REMINDER! Greetings to be included in the Grand Lodge Journal must be in before January; printed on form with Secty. and check made out to 31st Grand Lodge Convention Committee. Booster: Individual \$2.00; Couple \$4.00. Patron or Memorial: \$10.00.



Ruth Lundberg, our "Country Store" chairman, and all of you nice people donated things for it.....it went over really well. Come to our Dec. meeting to hear how much money we made.

#### CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

We had an outstanding and enjoyable Smörgåsbord. So many of our members worked on this preparing food, setting up, decorating, serving and cleaning up that I can not name them all to thank them. The important thing is that everyone had fun working on this affair. Working together we can make things happen.

I do want to express "tusen tack" to Margaret Carlson who put it all together. She even worked on this on her vacation in Sweden and Finland. Also to Ed Dahlberg, who secured the additional tables and chairs, and to Gil Holm, who provided our new beverage service center as a gift to Monitor.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the music and a great many joined in the dancing. Several members have asked about lessons in the old dances. This was an item discussed in our program planning meeting and we would like to do this next year as a part of our cultural program.

The district has asked us to establish a position of Historian so we will not lose the record of our past. I have assumed that position. If any of you have photos or mementos please let me know so we can begin our record.

I want to express my personal thanks for the support of the officers and members during the past year. It takes a lot of effort and cooperation to make an organization successful.

Finally, it is the season and Alice and I want to wish all of you God Jul och Gott Nytt År.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Ted Olson*

"No news is good news" so they say....have not heard if there is any one really sick. Every one is doing about the same.