

VASA ORDER OF AMERICA
Monitor Lodge No 218
Vol. 12 No. 3
Meets 1st Friday



Wisteria Hall
3830 "U" Street
Sacramento, CA.
April, 1988

THE MONITOR



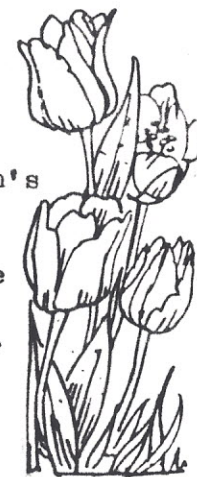
This month our April meeting is
the 2nd Friday night...April 8th
at 7:30 PM.

This month is also our 76th Anniversary
We will be honoring our past chairman and our 3 year
officers.

We will be initiating new members.....

Our program is "Scandinavian Spring-time"
we will all learn songs and dances they do
around midsummer with the help of our children's
Club.

Special decorations and refreshments since
this is our anniversary. Also when you are
invited to a party you usually bring a gift...
right? This time bring some thing the lodge
can use. (see list of suggestions on another
page)





Don't forget our Scandinavian
Festival on Saturday April 16th
10:30 to 2:30 at the Board of
Realtors Bldg 2003 Howe Avenue.

Free admission....Scandinavian Food galore, lots of
entertainment, Scandinavian booths for your shopping
pleasure. Bring your friends and relatives for a good
time. HELP IS NEEDED though, and we need all kinds of
baked goods and if you knit, crochet, carve, paint or
what have you.....we want it. Please contact Arlie
Veis at 489-5729 for more information.



Margaret Carlson, News Editor
Monitor Lodge
5110 - 42nd Street
Sacramento, CA. 95820
phone - 457-7376 or
452-2470

Dated Material

THE YEAR OF NEW SWEDEN 1938

In this year of New Sweden, 1988, we celebrate the 350th anniversary of the founding of the Swedish colony in America in 1638. But 50 years ago there was another celebration—the tercentenary marking 300 years. At the celebration on June 27, 1938 at Wilmington, Delaware, President Franklin D. Roosevelt accepted the monument presented by the Swedish people and expressed the thanks of America to the members of the Swedish royal family who were present for the occasion.

In his address FDR mentioned his family connection to New Sweden. One of his ancestors, William Beekman, served as Vice Governor of the colony from 1658 to 1663. This was after it had been taken over by the Dutch of New Amsterdam. He also described his claim to Swedish ancestry through Martinus Hoffman, an early Swedish settler in New Amsterdam.

The president turned over the monument to the Governor of Delaware whom he described as the official successor to the old governors of New Sweden which included the corpulent Johan Printz who is said to have weighed over three hundred pounds. He quoted the doggerel rhyme:

No Gov. of Del.
Before or since
Has weighed as much
As Johan Printz.

The settlers of New Sweden included Finns as well as Swedes. FDR did not overlook this and paid tribute to Finland. He concluded his address: "Sweden, Finland, and the United States will continue their service in the days to come in the cause of friendship and in the cause of peace among the nations of the world."



SWEDEN AT PEACE (continued)

Dag Hammarskjöld was from a distinguished Swedish family. His father had been Prime Minister of Sweden during World War I. His father devoted his entire career to government service, diplomacy, and international law. It was natural that the son should follow the same career. In fact, he did.

He was educated as an economist and represented Sweden in many economic conferences in the ministry of foreign affairs. He moved from this to larger questions of foreign policy and in April 1953, he was elected secretary-general of the United Nations. The UN was still a new and untried agency. Hammarskjöld was the second secretary general following Trygve Lie of Norway. This was the period when the colonial powers granted independence to former colonies and there were many incidents which could lead to war. He was successful in mediating these. In a biography he is described as "Guardian of the Brushfire Peace". Hammarskjöld was often criticized, especially by the USSR, as exceeding the authority of his office but was unanimously elected to a second term as secretary-general in 1957.

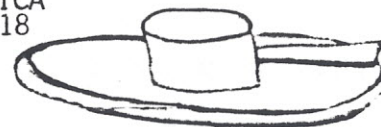
The problems continued. Hammarskjöld made the first use of United Nations troops to settle disputes in the newly independent Belgian Congo. This led to more Russian demands that he resign but he continued his course of action. He became personally involved. He was on a peace mission to the Congo when he was killed in a plane accident in Africa in September 1961.

His achievements had been noticed. The Nobel Prize Committee on Peace had met. A month after his death he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

(to be continued)

Ted Olson

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