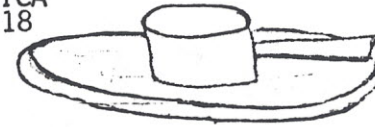


Wisteria Hall
3830 "U" Street
Sacramento, CA.
December, 1988



VASA ORDER OF AMERICA
Monitor Lodge No 218
Vol. 12 No.11
Meets 1st Friday

THE MONITOR

JULE FEST FOR..... December



Friday December 2nd is our Jule Fest and meeting.....it will start 7:30 sharp!

It will be a real festive time, our Lucia and the Children's Club will be with us. Our Christmas Committee goes all out in making this a festive time.

Of course, "Jule Tomten" will be coming so bring a gift worth \$3.00 to exchange (if you wish). Mark it for a "man" or "lady" and from (your name).



A "glogg party" afterwards and on the committee this year is Herb and Millie Johnson, Eleanore Vine, Erika Lewis, Thelma Range, and others helping too.

So, don't miss our December meeting.....

LUCIA FEST

Sunday, December 11th at 2:00 PM...this year it will be at Wisteria Hall (our regular meeting place)

The Children's Club puts on the program with Peggy Carlson and Camilla Caldwell, childrens club leaders in charge. Laurie Lagomarsino is the Lucia this year. "Tomten" will arrive so please bring a small gift for your child with "his" or "her" name clearly marked. All Monitor members please bring Christmas cookies, coffee breads, or finger foods of some kind for refreshments afterwards. Ruth Veis and Eleanore Vine is in charge.



VASA ORDER OF AMERICA

Monitor Lodge #218

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Dated Material

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

*"To Margaret
with love!"*

Margaret Carlson is the rare sort of person who is always there when you need her.

Margaret and her husband Roland Carlson, her brother Gilbert Holm and his wife Camilla; and her brother-in-law Lowell Carlson, all joined Monitor Lodge together on March 7, 1980.

From the very beginning they, as a family, have given wholeheartedly of their time and talent wherever and whenever there was a need in Monitor. Both Lowell and Camilla have served as efficient officers, and Roland and Gilbert have been chefs or barmen for years.

Margaret is special! She tends to stay quietly in the background, seeing what is needed, and doing it. When a committee member or an officer has been incapacitated, the quiet support of Margaret has always been there. When a new secretary could not handle the newsletter, Margaret accepted the responsibility and not only filled the gap, but increased the readability and quality of a newsletter to be proud of. When a chairman of hostesses found she could not carry on, Margaret Carlson stepped in and assisted Marge Skicklig to carry on. They developed our after-meeting coffee into memorable events. When our men chefs take to the kitchen to provide a special treat, they can always depend on Margaret to be there when needed. She is chairman of our Scholarship Committee.

Always Margaret has served behind the scenes, keeping things running smoothly, and cleaning up after others night after night.

She has nurtured our traditional Lodge Smorgåsbord into a community event to be proud of.

Margaret Holm Carlson is the heart and spirit of Vasa! Next year she will be serving as a "Chair" officer for our lodge. She will not be able to "be in the kitchen". Let us not betray the heart and spirit she has given us in her support services through the years, but let us honor that spirit by picking up and carrying on in the way she has led us. Let us give of ourselves generously when we are asked to serve. Let us follow the example she has set for us in open-hearted generosity and cheerful cooperation.

In Truth and Unity, Muriel Hjersman, Chairman

In spite of the important role Fox played in the Civil War, history does not say much about him. His name usually appears in footnotes. If he was not of Swedish descent he at least had a father who admired Gustav Vasa.

The monitor was a specialized type of warship. It was ideal for operations in bays and rivers where much of the Navy's action in the Civil War was fought. It was not adapted to the high seas and had limited range. Monitors often had to be towed from one theater to another. The original Monitor was under tow when it sank in a storm off Cape Hatteras in December 1862.

The Civil War monitors had been hastily built and soon deteriorated. A few new monitors were built in the 1890's with much greater displacement and fire power. Some were used in the Spanish American War. The last monitors in the Navy were the Ozark, Tallahassee, Tonopah, and Cheyenne. They were finally decommissioned and scrapped in 1922.

(Note-by now readers may feel they have been exposed to more information about the Monitor and monitors than they ever felt any need to know. At least they should know the significance of the name of our lodge which commemorates the contribution of a Swedish-American to his adopted country.)

Ted Olson

*God Jul
och
Gott Nytt År*

MORE ABOUT MONITORS (CONCLUSION)

The monitors built during the Civil War must have had names. I have mentioned Weehawken, Nahant, Catskill, and Passaic. I find record also of Tecumseh, Manhattan, Chickasaw and Winnebago; these took part in the battle of Mobile Bay. The Chickasaw put the South's newest ironclad, Tennessee, out of action by hanging right under her stern below the angle of her guns and fired into the engines. Otherwise, Naval history only records them as a type of ship.

Besides John Ericsson there are two other men connected with the monitors who have a Swedish ring to their names. John Adolphus Bernard Dahlgren entered the U. S. Navy in 1826. He was physically frail with poor vision, he even feared blindness. However, he was an expert in mathematics and became the Navy ordnance expert. He designed the Dahlgren gun which was used during the Civil War. The Merrimac, incidentally, had been built originally as a U. S. Navy screw frigate. When she went into action after being rebuilt as an ironclad she was equipped with Ericsson's screw propeller and Dahlgren guns.

Dahlgren spent most of his career at the Washington Navy Yard. This was his station when war broke out. Most of the officers at the yard followed their states' secession to the South. He became commander of the yard and gained the confidence of President Lincoln. His first important sea command was to lead the monitors in the successful battle for Fort Wagner.

The other name is Gustavus Vasa Fox. He had retired from the Navy after eighteen years of service and entered the textile business. He was made Assistant Secretary of the Navy in 1861. While Secretary Gideon Welles handled the political details, Fox organized the Navy into a strategic fighting force including the deployment of monitors.

Birthdays!

Hjartliga gratular pa
Fodelsedagen!!!!

Dec. 3	Marge Skicklig	24	Evelyn Anderson
3	Gary Doze	24	Sophia Swanson
4	Kerstin Hakansson	26	Dorothy Erickson
7	Ellen Harrod	30	Betty Bergman
12	Margaret Carlson	31	Alex Freeland
15	Lynn Lundberg		

Special Birthdays....

Imagine having a birthday on Christmas Eve...well, Evelyn Anderson will be 81 and Sophia Swanson will be 80 on Christmas Eve this year, and Dorothy Erickson will be 77 the day after Christmas. HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!



Our DEEPEST SYMPATHY goes out to the family of Esther Biehler, who passed away on November 11th from a heart attack. She was a long time member and a sister of Ruth Veis.



TWINS for (returning member)
David and Carolyn Swanson.

Born November 17th Anna Camille weighed 6 lbs 4 oz and Caroline Astrid 7 lbs 6 oz, and they were 3 weeks early, Imagine that!! poor mom....CONGRATULATIONS!! David and Carolyn.

Our LUCIA, this year is December 11th, at 2:00P.M., at Wisteria Hall, 3830 U Street. This is a different date and place than some earlier announcements this year. So, PLEASE NOTE! If you have friends whom you think would like to come and perhaps have never seen a Lucia Fest before, do invite them. Let's be friendly to any visitors. This is still "New Sweden '88", and we are trying to let people know that the Swedish customs, culture, and contributions mean something in U.S.A.

Elizabeth Johnson

DUES ! Dues! dues! are due and past due.....

If you haven't paid your dues for 1988 do so by our December meeting. If you can't be at our meeting please mail it to our Financial Secretary, Lisa Krastins at 5550 - 78th Street Sacramento, CA. 95820. Make check payable to Monitor Lodge #218 for \$14. The following members dues are now due and payable before December 31st.

Eva Allred	Eleanore Johnson	Audrey Smith
Gerda Anderson	Linda Johnson	Donn Stafford
Carol Baker	Ronny Kagstrom	Lillian Stafford
Erika Barrows	Christie Kagstrom	Steve Stromgren
Thor Barrows	Joyce Kelly	Sophie Swanson
Peggy Beckwith	Gibson Kingren	Harry Taylor
Richard Beckwith	Dorothy Kingren	Sandy Taylor
Ivy Bland	Helen Leroy	Maude Udvardy
Karin Bodelson	Arnold Lindquist	Harriett Yager
Viola Bodelson	Louise Lindquist	
Charles Campbell	Carl A. Larson	
Elarie Campbell	Carl E. Larson	
Don Carlson	Erika Lewis	
Kenneth Carlson	Elayne Lincecum	
Peggy Carlson	Daniel Link	
Elizabeth Coleman	Margaretha Logus	
Bee Dillard	Bernie Lundberg	
David Dorey	Ruth Lundberg	
Karin Dorey	Vickey Lydecker	
Gary Doze	Frances Misenti	
Kerstin Doze	Nancy Misenti	
Brigitta Ellis	Inez Norling	
Martha Fredrickson	Darlene Palmer	
Alex Freeland	Brigitta Persson	
John Forsburg	Faye Powell	
Paul Gullans	Thelma Range	
LaVerne Gullans	Regina Ryan	
Bente Hall	Eugenie Sholl	
Etna Hermanson	Gustav Skicklig	
Ethel Hoffman	Marge Skicklig	
Gilbert Holm	Ernie Skorheim	
Camilla Holm	Juanita Skorheim	
Kjell Hakansson	Jack Smith	

"
HANDICRAFT FROM SWEDEN, the Hemslojld exhibit, will be displayed until December 4th at the Stairwell Gallery of the American River College Library. It will be taken down and shipped December 5th. The exhibit is a very fine one. Augmenting the exhibit are some woven pieces from the turn of the century from Småland and Vastergotland areas. These are from local private sources. Also, there are some rugs woven by Ruth Duker, a local weaver, using Swedish designs. Perhaps the most popular weaving pattern is the Rose Path. Thanks to Ruth Duker and our own Peggy Beckwith for their demonstration lectures before the A.A.U.W. (Univ. Women), Antiques & Collectibles Section, who came to see the Handicraft from Sweden exhibit and help the meeting in the Ranch House on Campus.

Further thanks! Harry Johnson, Don Gustafson, Paul Gullans, Bee Dillard, and Jim Carlson, Dean of the Library, for their assistance in unpacking and setting up the exhibit. Also, Don for fixing the one slightly damaged packing case. Also, thanks to Wendy Strand for providing the program on lace-making with slides for our own Nål & Tråd which had a meeting in the Library after seeing the Handicraft exhibit.

Margaret Carlson and her assistants really did an outstanding Smörgåsbord for this year of emphasis on "New Sweden '88". How fortunate the Monitor Lodge is to have such a capable person and her many assistants. Thank you Margaret, and your many assistants! for the REAL SWEDISH SMÖRGÅSBORD!!

The Commemorative Issue of Sweden & America, we understand, went to press November 15th. We had hoped to have them for the Smörgåsbord, but, hopefully, our copies will be here for our Lucia. The Issue will be \$3.00 a copy (supposed to sell for \$5.00). We believe that we can sell enough to be able to sell them at the lower price. If you are one who paid the \$5.00 to reserve a copy, you will be reimbursed when you get your 72-page magazine. You are on our "Paid" list. Look for these lovely commemorative issues soon.

Elizabeth Johnson





from your Smörgåsbord chairman,
Margaret Carlson.

Tusen! Tusen! Tack!! and then that isn't enough to the hard working committee who put on a fanstastic "real swedish" smörgåsbord this year.

SPECIAL thanks to Dede Dahlberg (my right hand) for all her input, decorations...setting up the food tables....all her special swedish table cloths, dishes etc; and Dick Westrup (her right hand)

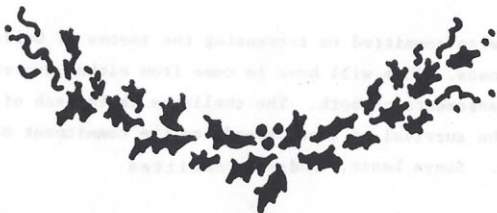
Erika Lewis and her decorating crew, our bar tenders, ticket takers, Peggy Carlson and her crew in the kitchen, all the men who cooked, carved and served, our coffee makers, Paul and Laverne Gullens, and all the good food you people brought, and all the people who helped serve and clean up, on and on. It keeps getting bigger and better and I couldn't have done it with out you. Tack! Tack! BUT this is my last....this years smörgåsbord was my "swan song" and now some one else can take over. For those of you who did not attend you don't know what you missed. Come to the December meeting and hear what our profit is and so on.

Some Scandinavian proverbs:

Things never go so well
that one should have no fear
nor so ill
that one should have no hope.

When there is room in the heart there is room in the house.

Don't sail out further than you can row back.



As per the request of the District Master who wishes the members to be informed of the District news I wish to copy the letter and thus save time at the meeting as it is our Christmas Party. I have copies of the proposed budget for those who would like to see one. See me after the next meeting.

Bernie Lundberg, District Deputy

A Note from the Budget Committee

At the August Executive Board Meeting we tackled the problem of establishing an operating budget for our term of office. The dilemma that we faced was to provide the existing level of services to the local lodges and the desire to expand those services on a fixed and yet declining income.

The District derives its income from the \$3.70 per capita assessment to the local lodges. Our membership as of 12/31/87 was 1620 members for an income of \$5,994.00. We have in the past received approximately \$1,000.00 from interest on our savings. The result is \$6,994.00 operating income. This year already we have lost 20+ members in the District and have drawn on our savings, both of which will decrease our income.

In order to determine our expected expenditures we looked at the records from the last three years, our expenses to this date and projected expenses for the rest of our term. The result is a (deficit) budget of \$10,100.00. The net operating loss is expected to be approximately \$3,106.00.

The Board recognized the gravity of this situation but felt that by cutting the services offered we would only be hastening the decline of District Lodge Golden Gate #12. In the business world any organization that ceases to progress and withdraws from its course is not too far from a permanent end. For this reason we passed the deficit budget with a strong determination to guard the interest of the local lodges who elected us to these positions.

We are firmly committed to following this budget closely. All decisions made will be evaluated in light of our financial situation. We also committed ourselves to making sure that local lodge members are informed of the situation and our plan of approach. For this reason each lodge secretary will be receiving, in the near future, a letter from the budget committee and a copy of the budget. We are earnestly soliciting advice and counsel from our members on alternative approaches and ideas. Please let us know what you are thinking and feeling.

Finally, we are also committed to increasing the income of Golden Gate District #12 to meet our expenses. This will have to come from either increasing membership or increasing assessments or both. The challenge is to each of us to determine the approach. The survival of Vasa depends on the commitment of each of us to keep it alive. Sonya Lantz, Budget Committee