

VASA ORDER OF AMERICA
Monitor Lodge No 218
Vol. 15, No. 6
Editor: Marie Tillman

Wisteria Hall
3830 "U" Street
Sacramento, CA

THE MONITOR



KNYTKALAS (POTLUCK) honoring the men
FRIDAY JUNE 7, at 6:30 pm

The bar opens at 6:00 and the meeting starts at 7:30.

The ladies treat the men this month by bringing their favorite swedish dish, enough to serve 10 people. We need helpers in the kitchen so please call Myrtle at 481-4056 and volunteer your help. (June Delle, our kitchen telephone person, is recuperating and unable to take calls.)

We will be awarding the scholarship to Susan Lydecker and presenting member pins.

CULTURAL EVENTS



Please come and celebrate Father's Day at our June 7 meeting. In this country we celebrate Father's Day in June but in Sweden it is always celebrated in November. One thing we do celebrate in June in Sweden, though, is the Swedish Flag Day on June 6 and Midsummer on June 22. At our meeting on June 7, we will learn all about summer celebrations and summer festivities in Sweden.

For all of us here in the Vasa Golden Gate district we need to attend our Sweden Day celebrations at Micke Grove Park in Lodi. This event takes place on June 8, starting at 8:30 am. (Please review your district newsletter for more information). Our own lodge's Valley Viking Singers will perform as well as our Children's Club.

Monitor Lodge No. 218

Vasa Order of America

5110 42nd Street

Sacramento, CA 95820

Address Correction

Requested

DATED MATERIAL

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 771
Sacramento, CA

Make plans to attend our Midsummer celebration in Elk Grove Park on June 22. We will have a Maypole, picnic, games, etc. It will be lots of fun to recreate the celebrations of Midsummer here in America as it happens in Sweden.

Enclosed you will find a flier about an upcoming event in the Bay Area. On July 6, the Frista'He'Sextet from Sweden will perform at a picnic. Plan to get a group together and attend this event in Palo Alto.



Eivor Pfannkuch
Cultural leader

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



The first part of this year has gone by so rapidly and now everyone is looking forward to summer and vacation. The May showers have extended a feeling of indoor activities but the calendar says, "Let's go outdoors". And of course that is where our Sweden Day and Midsummer festivities take place. They are always fun family affairs with food, music, and dance. We hope that everyone will be able to attend. Bring your friends to introduce them to some Swedish customs.

It was a delicious dinner prepared by the men for their lady guests at the May meeting. Thanks to all the servers and kitchen helpers that made it a wonderful evening. Eivor's presentation about May activities in Sweden was very interesting to all.

Now we will be working on plans for the Monitor Lodge 80th Anniversary combined with the District Convention, which will be held the last weekend of April 1992. This will be an exciting event for all lodge members to participate in.

I hope that many of you can participate in our coming activities and that all have a nice summer.



In Truth and Unity,
Myrtle Widmark

Note:

Please bring your baked cookies and breads to sell at Sweden Day either to the meeting or at Sweden Day to our sale table.

THE MAN OF MANY LIVES (CONT.)

In 1896 he became a professor of zoology at Christiana University but in 1908 his status was changed to professor of oceanography as his contribution that new science was recognized. He also participated in the International Council for Exploration of the Sea. He made several oceanographic voyages into the arctic.

In 1905 Nansen took part in the discussions leading to the dissolution of the union of Norway and Sweden and in 1906, he became the first minister in London of the new Norwegian monarchy. His interest in diplomacy continued and he headed the Norwegian delegation to the league of Nations in 1920 and continued as a representative until his death in 1930. In the League of Nations he directed repatriation of German and Austro-Hungarian prisoners of war. In 1921 he directed the relief activities of the International Red Cross. In 1922 he initiated an international agreement for an identification paper for persons who had lost a homeland as a result of World War I. This became known as the "Nansen Passport". He received the Nobel peace prize in 1922 for these activities.

He wrote many books of his explorations and research. Many were illustrated with his own drawings and show high artistic merit.

A man of many lives? Yes, you will agree.

Ted Olson



HABITAT

Swedish Name	Scientific Name	American Name	Family	Comments
	FRESH-WATER MARSHES (Cont'd)			
Skedand	<u>Anas clypeata</u>	Northern Shoveler	Anatidae	Circumpolar
Gräsand	<u>Anas platyrhynchos</u>	Mallard	Anatidae	N. Hemisphere (Ancestor of our domestic duck)
Amerikansk kopparand	<u>Oxyura jamaicensis</u>	Ruddy Duck	Anatidae	
Bläsand	<u>Anas penelope</u>	European Wigeon	Anatidae	Ocean Coasts
Amerikansk bläsand	<u>Anas americana</u>	American Wigeon	Anatidae	Pacific Coast
Amerikansk ärtä	<u>Anas discors</u>	Blue-winged Teal	Anatidae	N. California
Kricka	<u>Anas crecca</u>	Green-winged Teal	Anatidae	Pacific Coast
Stjärtand	<u>Anas acuta</u>	Pintail	Anatidae	N. Hemisphere
Snatterand	<u>Anas strepera</u>	Cadwall	Anatidae	Ocean Coasts
Knölsvan	<u>Cygnus olor</u>	Mute Swan	Anatidae	Introduced
Kanadagås	<u>Branta canadensis</u>	Canada Goose	Anatidae	
Bläsgås	<u>Anser albifrons</u>	White-fronted Goose	Anatidae	
Enkelbeckasin	<u>Capella gallinago</u>	Common Snipe	Scolopacidae	
Willsons simsnäppa	<u>Steganopus tricolor</u>	Wilson's Phalarope	Phalaropodidae	
Rörhöna	<u>Gallinula chloropus</u>	Common Gallinule	Rallidae	Cosmopolitan
Jorduggla	<u>Asio flammeus</u>	Short-eared Owl	Strigidae	Almost Cosmopolitan
Blå kärrhöök	<u>Circus cyaneus</u>	Marsh Hawk	Accipitridae	
	LAKES, PONDS, RIVERS			
Ringnåbåd mäs	<u>Larus delawarensis</u>	Ring-billed Gull	Laridae	
Bonapartes mäs	<u>Larus philadelphia</u>	Bonaparte's Gull	Laridae	

A slate of officers was organized at a meeting Tuesday, May 14th, 1991, at Myrtle Widmark's. There will be a lot of work involved in making this event a success. Information from several hotels was discussed, and the Facility committee was going to do some more research. The Ways and Means committee will need more ideas to raise money. Also it was suggested that there be a general theme for the entertainment, decorations, etc.

Following is a list of the officers and all need more volunteers to help. They will be calling, and you can call them to offer your assistance and ideas.

Chairman	Myrtle Widmark	481-4056
Vice Chairman	Arlie Veis	489-5729
Treasurer	Charles Linn	483-0261
Secretary	Muriel Hjersman	451-6940
Ways & Means	Eivor Pfannkuch	674-1068
Registration	Bernie Lundberg	269-0523
	Ruth Lundberg	
Hospitality	Lennart Andersson	366-8882
Decorations	Eleanor Vine	688-5296
Printing	Thelma Bagdley	383-7655
Entertainment	Arlie Veis	489-5729
	Kurt Pfannkuch	674-1068
Bowling & Golf	Donn Stafford	487-4201
Facilities	Charles Linn	483-0261
	Eivor Pfannkuch	674-1068
	Arlie Veis	489-5729
	Myrtle Widmark	481-4056
Publicity	Ted Olson	967-5538
Tickets	Charles Linn	483-0261

Please note:

A meeting is scheduled for Tuesday June 11 at 1:00 pm at Chairman Myrtle Widmark's home. All committee and all interested members please attend.



Remember to:

Sign the attendance sheet at the lodge meeting.
Wear your name badge.



CULTURAL AFFAIRS - GENEALOGY

Ed Sundberg of Santa Cruz will be in our area July 15 & 16, 1991. He will lecture on genealogy and tell interesting stories from native sources. For more information call Robin Aurelius, 447-3557.



THE SWEDISH FLAG

The exact age of the Swedish flag is not known, but the oldest recorded picture to a blue cloth with a yellow cross date from the 16th century. As decreed in a royal warrant of 1569, the yellow cross was always to be borne on Swedish battle standards and banners, as the Swedish Coat of Arms was blue divided quarterly by a cross of gold. The design of the Swedish flag is probably taken from the Danish flag and its blue and yellow colors possibly come from the Coat of Arms. Not until the 1620s - i.e. during the reign of Gustav II Adolf - do we find any reliable evidence of the blue flag with a yellow cross being worn by Swedish vessels. According to our oldest existing flag warrant, from 1663, a triple-tailed flag was to be used except by merchant ships, whose flag was square-cut. Nowadays the use of the triple-tailed pennon is reserved for the Royal Family and the armed forces. The Royal Family may also charge their flags either with the Lesser or the Greater Coat of Arms in the center of the cross.

Since 1916, June 6 has been celebrated as the Swedish Flag Day. This finally also became Sweden's National Day in 1983. The reasons for the choice of date are twofold: the election of Gustav Vasa as Sweden's king on June 6, 1523 laid the foundation of Sweden as a separate state; and on the same date in 1809, Sweden adopted a new constitution which included the establishment of the civil rights and liberties.

The colors and design of the flag are laid down in the Flag Act of 1982.

The flag is normally hoisted at 8:00 am from March 1 to October 1, otherwise at 9:00 am. It is lowered at sunset, but no later than 9:00 pm. There are about 15 official flag days, including the special celebrations of the Royal Family, May Day, Election Day, United Nations Day (October 24) and Nobel Day (December 10). The flag may also be flown on special local or private family occasions.

The Swedish composer, Hugo Alfvén, captured this mood in his composition "Midsommarvaka". The music describes the gathering for a dance, the tuning of instruments, then the music begins the dance but a young couple steal away and the music fades in the distance, replaced by the sounds of nature. With the growing light they return to the dance which is still in swing and join in the final and most vigorous dances.

We will celebrate Midsommar at Elk Grove Park on June 22 but not in the lusty manner of old Sweden. We will garland and erect the Majstång, hopefully there will be music and dancing. The feasting is up to you, it is a family picnic. This is an informal occasion and a good time to welcome friends, especially of Swedish background to join in this traditional event. We will begin about 10 am, we need help to decorate the majstång and erect it with appropriate ceremony. Please come and help maintain this Swedish tradition. We will need greenery and flowers for the majstång, bring what you can.

Ted Olson



RAFFLE TICKETS FOR SWEDEN DAY

Do you have your Sweden Day raffle tickets? They are \$1.00 each or a book of 6 for \$5.00. Remember our lodge gets a percentage of all we sell. The prizes are great -- CASH!

CORRECTIONS

Page 43:
Ronald & Doris Haas
11508 Armour Ct.
Rancho Cordova, 95670

Page 37:
Asst Fin Sec - Martha Fredrickson
3165 O St.
Sacramento, CA 95816



KRÄFTSKIVA (CRAYFISH PARTY)



For all you new members who haven't been to our "Kräftkalas" before, this is one event you can't afford to miss. Keep this date open for good food, a lot of fun and good fellowship. It will be Saturday evening August 17th at Bea Dillard's, 3940 Silver Spur Way. Bar opens at 6:00 pm and we'll eat at 6:30 pm. Bring a large salad, sandwiches, vegetables, fruit or whatever. This time bring your own card table and chairs. Plates and utensils will be furnished. Come and learn the real Swedish way to eat crayfish with akvavit and all. Since there will be no August issue of the "Monitor" to remind you, it is important that you put this event on your calendar right now.



MIDSOMMAR



The Swedish celebration of Midsommar probably originated in the pagan celebration of the summer solstice, the longest day of the year. Midsommar is probably not the most accurate name; our calendars describe that as the first day of summer which almost always occur on June 21. The days gradually become longer until that date and then begin to shorten again. In Sweden's northern location that change is more noticeable than it is to us. To more primitive people who were closer to nature, this midpoint of the solar year had special significance. Since they had to contrive their own entertainment this was the occasion of music, dancing and feasting.

As Sweden became Christianized the church transformed this occasion into one of the church saint's days. John the Baptist day of June 24 was conveniently close and the occasion was shifted to that date. Originally the celebration was one of fertility rites. To some extent this still continued. Even with the new date the Midsommar night was one of the shortest of the year and the one occasion when young people were unchaperoned and couples could escape to enjoy themselves. The night was short, it was not a time for sleeping.

LOST AND FOUND

Found: A brown designed cardigan; a white flower embroidery hankie; 2 small straw goats with heart woven ribbon (Lucia program); and an oval glass casserole dish with lid.

BILLS AND MONIES

The recording secretary thanks everyone for presenting their bills before the meeting. There will be a form for you to fill out and attach your receipts or bill to. (You must have a receipt or a bill in order to be reimbursed.)

The financial secretary also thanks you for getting any monies to her before the meeting. Remember to get your membership card.

ACCOUNTING SHEETS

Please return all the accounting sheets, that I gave to several members, at the June 7th meeting. If you will not be there, please send them to:

Myrtle Widmark
3900 Silver Spur Way
Sacramento, CA 95841



IN MEMORIA

Gustav Skicklig passed away May 7, 1991, after a couple of months of serious illness. Larry, as he is known to most of us, has been ill the last several years. His easy-going, genial manner, and friendly personality will be remembered by those who knew him. Our condolences to Marge, his wife, and his family. There will be no funeral or memorial services; this was his request. Larry has been a member of Monitor Lodge since 1974. Memorial gifts can be made to Community Lutheran Church, Drever & Jackson, West Sacramento, CA 95691, or to the Scholarship Fund of the Monitor Lodge.

Next deadline for "The Monitor" will be
August 15, 1991

Send material to Marie Tillman,
1605 Truckee Way, Woodland, CA 95695

MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES IN JUNE, JULY & AUGUST

June:
 Coleman, Elizabeth
 Harrod, Ellen
 Lundberg, Bernie & Ruth
 Misenti, Frances
 Misenti, Nancy
 Skorheim, Ernest & Juanita

July:
 Ellis, Birgitta
 Forsty, Richard & Helen
 Hjersman, Henry & Muriel
 Mattson, Gustav
 Stafford, Donn & Lillian
 Thorsen, Sigrid



August:
 Anderson, Jean
 Fales, Audrey
 Johnson, Ethel
 Larson, Carl

Congratulations! These are also the months that your Annual Dues are payable. Dues are \$14.00 per year, made payable to Monitor Lodge No. 218. Either bring them to the June 7th Meeting or mail them to Financial Secretary Elizabeth Johnson, 4332 T Street, Sacramento, CA 95819. If you desire a receipt sent by mail, please enclose S.A.S. envelope.

NEW MEMBERS



Welcome new members:

Christine Marie Bodelson
 2644 La Mesa Way
 Sacramento, CA 95825
 (916) 482-9762

Jeanne Ellen Hanson
 1412 Hawaii Street
 Fairfield, CA 94533
 (707) 422-9129

Charles Burton Johnson, Jr.
 2644 La Mesa Way
 Sacramento, CA 95825
 (916) 482-9762

William Durl Van Alstyne
 5498 Platt Mountain Road
 Forest Ranch, CA 95942
 (916) 894-1919



BIRTHDAYS

Hjärtliga gratulationer på födelsedagen!
 Congratulations!

June:
 1 - June Brown
 2 - Ruth Uffens
 2 - Audrey Olson-Smith
 2 - Inger Thornros
 8 - Gilbert Holm
 12 - Eleanor Johnson
 15 - Elizabeth Johnson
 17 - Edmund Nelson
 20 - Barbara Ericson
 20 - Frank Stangl
 22 - Margaret Linn
 24 - Erika Barrows

July:
 5 - Martha Fredrickson
 7 - Herb Johnson
 8 - Hildur Benson
 10 - Eivor Pfannkuch
 11 - Ernest Skorheim
 15 - Camilla Caldwell
 16 - Camilla Holm
 17 - Ronald Haas
 18 - Ivar Axberg
 24 - Ingegerd Kennedy
 31 - Leo Krastins

August:
 1 - Carl E Larson
 2 - Alice Swanfeldt
 5 - Sigrid Thorsen
 7 - Brian Buscher
 8 - Jeanne Hanson
 8 - Durl Van Alstyne
 9 - Paul Gullans
 11 - Sue Bergman
 13 - Mary Anderson
 15 - Lars Ostlund
 16 - Michael Aylward
 17 - Martha Olson
 19 - Charley Badgley
 20 - Ricki Niemoller
 26 - Birgitta Persson
 26 - Susan Buscher
 28 - Jillian Stanley
 29 - Dorothy Kingren
 29 - Gail Nemy



Spécial Birthdays: Hildur Benson 94, Charles Bagdley 84, Sigrid Thorsen 83, Sue Bergman 80, Martha Fredrickson 80, Martha Olson 79, Ruth Uffens 79, Elizabeth Johnson 77, Camilla Holm 75.